

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LXI.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 2nd January, 1905, at 31, Woodside, Wimbledon, the wife of FREDERIC ONGLEY SEATON, of Macao, of a daughter (still born).  
The wife of J. A. PEACH, Imperial Maritimes Customs, Kowloon, of a daughter.

### MARRIAGES.

On 21st January, at Peking, JOHN WALTER, third son of THOMAS WILLIAM RICHARDSON, of Swatow, China, to JESSIE AUGUSTA OTTERWILL.  
On 4th February, at Shanghai, ALBERT EDWIN HOUSE, Lieutenant Royal Navy, H.M.S. *Strius*, to ELLEN, second daughter of Mrs. H. S. GOODFELLOW, of Shanghai.

On 18th February, at Union Church, by the Rev. C. H. Hickling, ALLAN STEVENSON, eldest son of Mr. A. M. Stevens and Jeanfield, Symington, Ayrshire, to CLARA MABEL, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Clark, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire.

On 18th February, at Peak Church, by the Rev. F. T. Johnson, OSWALD DYKES THOMSON, Solicitor, Hongkong, to FRANCIS ALICE, second daughter of the Rev. Alfred George Lawe, of Hungerford, Berks.

### DEATHS.

On 14th January, at Polruan, Cornwall, England, LILLIE, the wife of Captain T. AUSTIN, of the s.s. *Wing Chai*, Hongkong. B.P.

On 2nd February, at Berlin, CARL HERMANN SNEHLAGE, of Snehlag & Co., Shanghai.

On 4th February, at Ningpo, A. A. STUBBS, of the Imperial Chinese Postal Service, aged 34 years.  
On 8th February, at the Kiangsu Chemical Works, FREDERICK MANN, aged 65 years.

On 18th February, at Shanghai, JOHN BOLLARD, aged 58 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail arrived, per the ss. *Prinzess Alice*, on Wednesday, the 15th inst. and the French Mail of the 20th January is expected to arrive, per the ss. *Oceanien*, to-morrow the 21st instant.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Tientsin is going to mint tael coins shortly.

The *Tientsin Times* is incredulous concerning the suppression of the Kwangsi rebellion.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts courteously inform us that they were informed by telegraph that the following dividends have been declared in Shanghai:—

Shanghai Gas Co., Ltd. Final dividend of 1/- 5 making 1/- 8½ for the year.

Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co., Ltd. Final dividend 1/- 6 making 1/- 9 for the year.

Maatschappij & Co. in Langkat, Ltd. First Interim Dividend of 1/- 7½ account 1905.

The Chinese are talking of beginning the construction of the Peking-Kalgan railway.

Letters posted at Vladivostok during the first week in December reached Hongkong on Feb. 14.

Mr. J. Gilfillan, late detective-sergeant in the Shanghai Police Force, has joined the Federated Malay States Police as Inspector.

Hankow's growing importance has been recognised by the appointment, by the Board of Commerce, of a railway superintendent there.

The Dowager Empress of China has had another inspiration. Chinese lawyers on the Board of Punishments are to be made to study law.

Shanghai papers announce the death, in his 66th year, of Mr. F. Mann, for a long period the manager of Major Bros' Acid Works on the Soochow Creek.

Col. L. F. Brown, R.E., who recently vacated the post of C.R.E., in Hongkong, has reached the age of 57 years and retires on a pension of £500 per annum.

The return of Stamp Revenue at Hongkong during 1904 has been published. The total amount is \$541,460.21, an increase of \$25,103.66 on the Stamp Revenue for 1903.

Sergeant Walsh, of the Naval Yard Police, has been recommended for the Royal Humane Society's medal for saving a naval officer from drowning, at Yaumati on the 13th inst.

We understand that Dr. Atkinson, the principal Civil Medical Officer, will shortly leave Hongkong on furlough, and that Dr. Clarke will take charge in his absence.

Prince Chun, says the *Peking Times*, wants to start in the Chinese capital a spinning and weaving factory like that which Chang Chih-tung planned at Hankow.

The *Daily Press* on February 17th published a telegram saying that the s.s. *Newchwang* had returned to Shanghai, having been damaged in the river by a collision with the s.s. *Sperber* off Edwar Island.

The *N. C. Daily News* says that Mr. Arthur Hamilton Lee, M.P., who recently offended Germany with an indiscreet speech referring to naval expansion, was adjutant of the Hongkong Volunteers in 1889-90.

The Committee of the St. Louis Exposition have awarded a Bronze Medal and Diploma to Captain R. D. Thomas of s.s. *Powan* for an exhibit of butterflies caught by him in Hongkong and the neighbourhood of Canton.

The seventeenth plague fatality was recorded on the 11th inst, the number of cases for last week being three. There were in addition four European cases of enteric fever, and two cases of small-pox, one European and one Portuguese.

Concerning the meeting of the International Postal Union to be held in Rome next April, the Hamburg Chamber of Commerce has several suggestions to offer, amongst which is the introduction of international stamps for the prepayment of replies.

A meeting of members of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club and the Boat Club was held at the Hongkong Hotel on Feb. 14 for the purpose of amalgamating the Clubs. The meeting was *en camera*. It was agreed to amalgamate the Clubs.

The Japanese Government has just given out extensive orders for tent canvas to Soochow linen manufacturers. As the orders are additional to those recently executed and, as delivery is spread over several months, it is inferred that the Island Kingdom is determined to prosecute the war well into the year.

A telegram to the *Daily Press* on February 20th announced the death of Sir Robert Jardine, senior partner in Jardine Matheson & Co., who was created baronet in 1885. He was just eighty years of age. He was M.P. for Ashburton in 1865-68, for Dumfries 1868-74, and for Dumfriesshire 1880-92.

The Captain of the P. & O. steamer *Japan* on his arrival on Feb. 10 reported that on the 18th inst. at 0.44 p.m. in latitude 15° deg. 19m. 30s. N., longitude 112° deg. 38m. 15s. E., he passed a spar or mast covered with barnacles and projecting about four feet above the surface of the water and apparently attached to a sunken derelict.

Mr. M. Noma, Consul for Japan, wrote on Feb. 10 to say that he had received an official telegram from Baron Komura to the effect that the order of the Japanese Naval Department regarding the articles of contraband of war which was promulgated on the 10th February 1904 has been amended to the effect that in article 2 of the said order the words "clothing and its material" will be added after the word "liquors" and that the words "and other kinds of fuel" will be added after the word "coal."



## HONGKONG DEFENCES.

(Daily Press, 11th February.)

There is an observable difference in the various accounts of the recent mobilization manœuvres of the Hongkong garrison, and a still more patent paucity of desirable details, to account for which it should scarcely be necessary, in the case of the thoughtful newspaper reader. This mobilization, and these manœuvres, were presumably carried out as nearly as possible on a basis of actual warfare, with a view to testing the defensive quality of our local Gibraltar. Without more than a mere mention of the fact that the naval and military authorities of Hongkong have got into a habit of exaggerated reticence whenever a newspaper reporter approaches, however insignificant and uncompromising the desired information might be, we may at once admit that the result of such a test, if of a certain character, were better left unpublished. It is obvious that the information that would most interest the residents would be more interesting still to others. As it happens, however, what has been reported already may very easily alarm the timid colonist, and amuse the unsympathetic outsider. Before erroneous inferences are made upon insufficient or misrepresented data, it will be well to remember that however closely the manœuvres sought to approximate war conditions, they quite failed to secure such conditions as could alone make such a test afford evidence of any value. The swiftest means of communication between the sentinels or outposts and the massed troops waiting to be summoned were lacking. The withdrawal of a thousand troops to represent the enemy considerably diminished the strength of those whose duty it was to look out for the invader. It must not be forgotten, either, that the fleet representing the enemy would, or others for them, be waiting to receive him, accompanied by swift craft that would patrol the neighbouring waters and give the land forces timelier warning than they had on this occasion. Considering how nearly the British Government has approached the brink of war in recent times, the condition of our garrison is by no means all that we could wish for. How far the Governor, Sir MATTHEW NATHAN, has realised this may perhaps be gauged by his energetic endeavour to popularise the Volunteer movement. It is not at all improbable that behind his promotion of a Volunteer Reserve, and his encouragement of the ordinary corps, there was more than the personal predilection for a useful organisation. There is no secret, so far as we know, about the fact that the Hongkong garrison has never been maintained at anything like its nominal strength; and lately there has been the talk of withdrawing another native detachment. If the argument be that there is no reasonable probability of their services being required for a long time to come, why not economise by still further reducing the available force? But no such argument will be seriously advanced. No one can tell what the morrow may bring forth, particularly in this Far East, where, as Professor SKRINE remarked, there are all the elements of an Armageddon.

There is need, says the *Paris Figaro*, for a school of sang froid. The professors ought to teach the students how to brace themselves for any ordeal. The writer, comments the *Peking Times*, has evidently never been in the Far East, otherwise he would have realized that no other school is needed to cultivate an apparently inherent trait in all men. The composure with which the \$15 stripling will walk into the stores month after month and spend \$200 would have silenced him.

## RUSSIAN FINANCES.

(Daily Press, 13th February.)

With reference to the new Russian loan that, according to the *Times* extract we published yesterday, was being puffed so assiduously in Germany, much more might have been said than that journal permitted itself to say. It mentioned the alleged "cooking" of recent Russian Budgets, and the Russian habit of maintaining credit by making new creditors satisfy old ones, without elaborating those points. In that amusing stage trifle "Charley's Aunt," some readers will doubtless remember how the tout was tipped by the undergraduate. His patron, "A," borrowed half a crown from "B." "B" obliged him by borrowing it from "C," who in turn had had to gratify "B's" request by borrowing the coin from the tout. "A" gravely tipped the man with his own half-crown. Russia's solvency seems to be on a par with that of the three college young men, and the enormous gold reserve of one hundred and seventy six million roubles alleged to exist three months ago is a fleabite to the mass of "kites" she is flying. The "material, financial, and commercial improvement" of which Russia boasts, "in spite of a sequence of bad harvests and in spite of a period of economic depression," is akin to the physical improvement that some of SANDOW's pupils exhibit, who show enhanced biceps and conceal a damaged aorta. This ruinous war may prick the bubble of Russian credit, expose her internal bankruptcy, and lead to a repudiation of debts that will give a painful shock to her dear ally among others. A Russian financier is reported to have said to a German journalist recently: "We still maintain ourselves upright by stimulants, by loans, which, like all stimulants, only help to ruin the system more quickly." In spite of an annual increase in population of something like two million head, Russia's immense natural resources remain undeveloped. Agriculture cannot be made to pay the small farmer who is too heavily burdened and oppressed, and the number of workmen employed by the commercial undertakings of which we have heard so much is absurdly small in proportion. Shortly after the Port Arthur fleet was destroyed, a Russian bank director said to a well known correspondent of Vienna that Russia's financial credit was based on fictitious claims. "We have paid to secure future credit. This policy of honest debtor is wiser than the occasional discontinuance of payment." It is not as if Russia met these loans with a view to consolidating them, or securing renewals at the minimum interest of the period. This banker said:—"Do not forget that no Government pays to the world such commissions for loans as we do. Prussia pays half per cent., Austria one and a half. We pay three per cent., and, between ourselves, it doesn't end with that, but the issuing banks also get their six per cent. Just calculate what a commission of three to six per cent. means on a loan of five hundred to a thousand million roubles, which we shall surely need in this war. Let us say only three per cent., officially. That means thirty millions." Assuming the large cash reserve to exist, it should not be long in disappearing at the present rate of war expenditure. The new loan seems to denote an expectation that the struggle may continue for another year or more, and each month of it is supposed to be costing Russia a hundred million roubles. The price of the outstanding bonds has had to be maintained in Germany by barefaced bolstering, at which German holders cannot cavil and consider their own interests.

The French, it is said, are thoroughly satiated with the bonds, and view with something like consternation the new attempts to issue paper, for every new issue depreciates the old. The banker previously referred to, asked for his opinion of the real value of the Russian bonds, said "So long as our Russian peasant is able to starve and to sell his grain, as long as there are gendarmes to aid the tax collector, and people who are willing to make further loans to us, so long is the payment of dividends assured." That was just twelve months ago. The Russian peasant seems less willing to starve now. The starving may be reserved for the buyer and holder of Russian bonds.

## A GERMAN REVIEW OF TRADE.

(Daily Press 14th February)

The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce in its annual Report issued last month is pleased to be able to state that the improvement in trade to which it drew attention last year has made further progress. Commerce more particularly has shown renewed activity and enterprise. A prominent feature in the development of German industries has been the tendency to combine. Thus a fusion of the principal dye-stuff works has taken place, whilst the coal syndicate has been renewed on a broader basis for a further period of twelve years. The Chamber sees no reason to change its opinion that combinations have under present circumstances come to be of vital importance to many trades. At the same time it is bound to admit that there is a reverse to the medal, and that, to quote an example, the granting of considerable concessions in price to foreign buyers of raw materials or half finished goods by some of the syndicates may in many cases seriously handicap home makers in competing in markets abroad. Moreover the power gradually acquired by some of the combines has become so great as to verge on a monopoly. The State has therefore considered it its duty to interfere; the Hibernia case, of which our Hamburg correspondent has given the history in his letters, being an instance of this. It is much to be regretted that the new tariff, by raising the duties on most articles, will tend to increase the difficulties of foreign competition at home, and thereby render less effective one of the few checks that exist on the greed of monopolists.

Satisfaction is expressed that neither the war in the Far East, nor the rising of the natives in Southwest Africa, nor other untoward events of lesser magnitude have materially affected the course of improvement. Certain branches of trade have of course suffered through the war, but others have been benefited. The necessity however of a clearer definition of the meaning of contraband of war and other points of international law, after peace shall have been concluded, has become imperative. The rising of the natives in south-west Africa has, commercially speaking, been of little importance, its effects having been confined to Germany.

A simultaneous revival of trade in Great Britain (which is gradually recovering financially and commercially from the effects of the Boer war) and in France, has greatly contributed to the improvement in Germany. The United States, too, have rallied in a remarkably short time from the depression prevailing there at the close of last year; whilst the demand for goods from most of the republics of Central and South America, upon which the export trade of Hamburg depends to a great extent, is decidedly more active.



Attention is drawn to the growing tendency of German manufacturers to enter into direct relations with buyers abroad. This may be advantageous and justifiable in some cases, but on the whole it is to be deprecated, as industrial firms are not in a position to obtain the same reliable information as to the standing and solvency of their customers, and as to their requirements as merchants, who have their correspondents all over the different countries.

Owing to the war, the Trans-Siberian railway has not exercised that stimulating effect on trade which was expected last year. On the other hand the financial difficulties under which China was labouring at that time seem to have disappeared and a large business has been done with that empire, principally in textile fabrics, metals and coal, although the growing competition of the United States and Japan is making itself keenly felt. The import trade from China is said to have been, on the whole, satisfactory, due partly to the abundant yield of the rice crop; but it has been somewhat hampered by the rise in the price of silver and the demand for the Japanese and Russian armies which for some articles caused values to advance far beyond those ruling in Europe. The Customs receipts have profited by the increase of imports. Future prospects are considered good, provided peace and quiet can be maintained in China.

The fears entertained at the outbreak of the war that trade with Japan would come to a standstill, have not been realised to any great extent, although at first exports were suspended and imports suffered from the additional war duties. Business was soon resumed on the old scale, and as the finances of Japan seem to be in a sound state in spite of the strain caused by the war, and as the rice crops have turned out well, the economic conditions of the country appear favourable.

Trade with Corea has also been satisfactory owing to the abundant yield of the rice crop and the supplies required by the armies in the field. The railway between Fusan and Seoul which, thanks to the wonderful energy of the Japanese, has lately been opened, will, when no longer monopolized by the military, prove of the greatest advantage to trade in general. The steam service between the Chinese ports and Corea established by the Hamburg American Line some time ago is doing well. Of Kioutchow little is said beyond that the Shantung railway, when finished, will open up that province, the mineral wealth of which is well known. The freight market has not shown much improvement. In fact tramp steamers have done rather worse than last year, as the regular lines, owing to the many advantages they offer to shippers of goods, are monopolizing the business more and more. They have no reason on the whole to complain of the past twelve months. They continue to extend their sphere of action in every direction. The international convention of sailing-ship owners concluded last year, has fully answered the purpose for which it was formed; the decline in freights has not only been arrested, but an advance has been established pretty well in all quarters. The war in the Far East, by creating an additional demand for freight room, has given an opportunity to some Hamburg companies and private owners to secure good charters and to dispose of many of their older vessels on favourable terms. On the other hand neutral shipping has suffered serious inconvenience coupled with considerable losses in many instances, at the hands of the belligerents, in consequence of the uncertain state of international law.

### HONGKONG P.S.A. ASSOCIATION. (Daily Press, 15th February.)

The Pleasant Sunday Afternoon movement has been inaugurated in Hongkong, with but indifferent success so far. The average attendance has been about forty, mostly soldiers and sailors. We fear that the reason for the dwindling attendance lies in the Rev. C. H. HICKLING's conception of a Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, which, needless to say, is not quite the same as that of the rank and file. This is not to say that Mr. HICKLING's conception is not a better one; but since these meetings are explicitly stated to be organised for young men and others who have no suitable place in which to spend their day of rest, we think it would be kinder and wiser to view the subject from more than one point. Mr. HICKLING took the sensible course of making enquiries to discover why the P.S.A. meetings were not popular. One answer was, and it was "the only reason he had received," that the meetings were too religious. "If they were made more entertaining," he was told, "more of a sing-song nature, they might get the place filled." Mr. HICKLING did not think, however, that any of those who came in to help would "care to give up their time on a Sunday afternoon to a sing-song. There might be nothing wrong in it, but personally he thought he could use his time better, so he was not inclined to accept that suggestion in any way, to get numbers at the expense of spiritual profit." Thus we see that the reverend and well-meaning gentleman has somehow taken the letters "P.S.A." to signify "profitable Sunday afternoon"; and that, like many others who ask for advice, he is reluctant to act upon it when it presents itself in unpalatable guise. That Mr. HICKLING has misunderstood the nature of the successful P.S.A. work at Home is evident in some other remarks he made. His great point with which to tickle the groundlings to smile upon these meetings is that they are "strictly unsectarian." That may be true, and yet they may not come up to the popular idea of a pleasant Sunday afternoon. The complaint that they have been "too religious" needs no more justification than his own admission that they were started with a view to "push on the work of Christianity." If Mr. HICKLING would only be satisfied with the quite real advantage of enticing men away from resorts that may be pleasant, but are decidedly unprofitable, there might yet be hope for the local P. S. A. movement. Even a sing-song, of a clean, wholesome sort, would be a decided step in the right direction, as against the attractions that do draw our young men. We do not, however, agree with the person who suggested that a "sing-song" was the only kind of entertainment that would draw the crowd of men desired. Mr. HICKLING's P.S.A. is evidently only a disguised copy of a pleasant Sunday morning or evening in the Union Church; and he has to realise that the men he now desires to help have a prejudice against religious services. They are not particularly enamoured of sing-songs: some of them would probably be bored at a penny concert. They labour under the ancient human ache, the insatiate yearning for something new under the sun. They have heard all they hear from the pulpit before: if instead it came newly to them, they would probably be as much interested and affected as were the first men who heard the gospel. Variety is the programme that they look for; and this, we venture to suggest, could be given to them without omitting the profit that Mr. HICKLING knows is to be

desired. Many facts are new to them. A German savant once told a Judge that the tiny spherical ovum from which every man is developed is as truly endowed with life and soul as the embryo of two, seven, or even nine months. The Judge laughed incredulously. A young man who walked into the City Hall for a pleasant Sunday afternoon would be wiser. He would hail new and startling (to him) facts as quite pleasant. Mr. HICKLING could, if he would, get friends to supply such new facts. The friends he has been enlisting have presumably confined themselves to pulpit facts, which (to the P.S.A. subject) are not, or do not seem, new. If he can persuade big audiences of these young men to come and be innocently amused, a distinct gain will be registered; but he tells us that his friends will not be satisfied with that. He thinks the helpers could occupy their time more usefully. If this be the limit of their devotion to the P.S.A. movement, we fear they will have to be satisfied with the opportunities they already enjoy, of improving one another. They seem at present to be in the position of the Mahomet who expected the mountain to come to him.

### THE MISSIONARY QUESTION.

(Daily Press, 16th February.)

We really are reluctant to deal with subjects such as the one now in hand, but the political importance of missionary conduct in China is too great to be disregarded. It seems now necessary, even at the risk of wounding the susceptibilities of those with strong convictions, to refer to a recent sermon delivered in Shanghai by the Rev. C. E. DARWENT. It was specially aimed at the recent memorandum of Professor JENKS, who discussed the missionary question solely from the political standpoint. The Shanghai preacher admitted this, but claimed that it was quite impossible to consider missions in that aspect. This should have prevented him from attacking Professor JENKS' important observations; but instead, he proceeded to rebut purely political arguments by appeals to the faith of his hearers. He did more. He indulged in discourteous attacks upon other religions, which we consider quite sufficient excuse, if any more be needed, for saying what we shall have to say. We do not expect the Rev. C. E. DARWENT or his fellow missionaries to regard politics as important, but we do expect them to allow others to do so, and to grant them equal freedom of expression.

It surely should not be necessary to insult those things which millions of our fellow creatures hold in reverence. Necessary or not, if missionaries are going to talk as the Rev. C. E. DARWENT talked on the 5th instant, reprisals are inevitable, and there cannot in justice be any protest. For instance, he did not deny the truth of Professor JENKS' remark that missionaries are responsible for a good deal of disturbance. His answer was that disturbances were inevitable, as "a condition of progress." "What," he demanded, "would weeds think when the hoe was applied to them? They would not like the disturbance, but nevertheless it had to be." This assumption that Buddhism and the other Eastern religions are weeds leaves out of account the opinion of the Chinese and others. If Mr. DARWENT were attacking weeds in his own garden, his position would be less vulnerable; but he has come to the Chinaman's garden. What would the English law do to the cabbage-cultivator who jumped over into his neighbour's garden, and insisting that the tobacco plants flourishing there were



weeds, proceeded to attack them with a hoe, as the Rev. C. E. DARWENT attacks Buddhism and the like? There is not so great a difference between the herb o' grace sold by Mr. DARWENT and that by the native ecclesiastical gardeners. Most religious declare that they can elucidate the problem of existence, the solution of which is beyond the natural power of reason, by the supernatural way of revelation. What human creature can judge between the rival revelations of the foreign missionary and the native priest? We dare not, and we are bound, impartially, to put them on the same footing. Happily or unhappily, the Rev. C. E. DARWENT helps us to do so. He says that Chinese religions are not true, and that his is. Professor JENKS had said that "if there were superstitions in the Chinese religion they could be got rid of and the pure gold would remain. To the preacher's mind this argument presented itself like this: there were two men who wanted some rice, and there was a great heap of rubbish with grains of rice scattered among tons of stuff. There was also a measure full of nothing but rice. What would be the use of someone telling one of these men to go and pick the grains out of the rubbish heap when there was a lot of it all together in the measure?"

Very naturally, but without justice, Mr. DARWENT likens his own cult to the pure rice. Referring to Chinese superstitions, he waxes sarcastic, and asks:

"What about the water god with the yellow body, eight hands, eight feet, and eight eyes? What about the kitchen gods who went up the chimneys in such numbers at New Year time? What about popular Buddhism? It was all very well for Sir Edwin Arnold to give an account of an idealised Buddhism, but how did it work out as the popular Chinese religion? The stories of the births of Christ and Buddha should be compared! When Christ was born angels appeared, and sang 'Peace on earth, good will to men.' That was worthy of the coming of Christ into the world. Buddha's mother, when he was born, saw an elephant with six tusks. The preacher went on to give other illustrations of Chinese superstitions, comparing them with the Gospel story, and showing that the search for truth among Chinese superstitions would be quite futile."

That is where the only reply possible becomes painful, and repugnant to us; but are these reverend bigots to go unreprieved, while they show the irreverence that we would gladly avoid if they could let us? We can minimise our offence by closely paraphrasing Mr. DARWENT's own words, thus: What about popular Christianity? It was all very well for the Rev. C. E. DARWENT to give an account of an idealised Christianity, but how did it work out as the popular foreign religion? What about angels? Are these "gaseous vertebrates" any more reasonable conceptions than the elephants with six tusks? If we must choose, we prefer the latter, for we have seen sheep with more than the regulation number of legs, but we have never met a human body that had wings, except on the pantomime stage. SAVAGE, in his "Religion in the Light of the Darwinian Theory," says: "It is one of the standing charges of the Church against science that it is materialistic. I must say, in passing, that the whole ecclesiastical doctrine of a future life has always been, and still is, materialism of the purest type. It teaches that the material body shall rise, and dwell in a material heaven." True Buddhism does not teach that, and we believe the more enlightened Churchmen at Home no longer insist on it. The Rev. C. E. DARWENT who clings to mediæval Christianity, is but seeking to transplant Chinese weeds with a foreign weed. Disturbances thus lightly caused are politically objectionable, and Professor JENKS had a perfect right to say

so. The Rev. C. E. DARWENT has every right to his own faith, but no moral right to jeer at the faiths of others.

### THE SOUTH CHINA FISHING INDUSTRY.

(Daily Press 17th February.)

Four or five months ago, we reproduced from a northern contemporary a report that a Chinese company was contemplating experiments with a Grimsby trawler, with a view to developing the native fishing industry. Whether this report inspired him or not, it was about the same time that the French commercial agent at Haiphong, M. GEORGES VILLAREM, broached a similar project for Indo-China. We are in receipt of a pamphlet by him, entitled "Pêcheries du Tonkin," in which he unfolds the scheme, and explains why it did not succeed. The commercial importance of a business so intimately concerned with the staple food of large masses of Chinese is first emphasised. He explains how more fish is eaten salted and dried than fresh, and describes briefly some of the methods of preparation. The primitive methods still employed by the Chinese and Annamite fishermen are referred to, by which the hundreds of junks that work in the Gulf of Tonkin obtain such comparatively poor harvests. Many of these junks go from Pakhoi and Hoihow to the island of Cà-Bà, off the port of Haiphong, where the salting and exporting of fish gives employment to numbers of people. An estimate, supposed to be conservative, puts the quantity sent to China at 838,372 kilogrammes, 309,094 kilos. to Cochinchina and Annam, and 173,000 kilos. *transit pour le Yunnan*. Pakhoi alone has four or five hundred junks engaged. M. VILLAREM's idea was to form a company with a capital of 200,000 francs, in hundred franc shares, to build steam trawlers of Philippine timber, of from forty to fifty tons capacity, to bring the very latest gear from France, and expert skippers from the Mediterranean fisheries. Natives would not be able to manage the patent nets he describes, which are lowered and raised by means of steam winlasses, and have "pockets" about two hundred feet long and about thirty feet wide. The *chalutier* would have a very sharp prow, and steam so fast that the fish would be driven in a dense mass into this *sac* or *poche*. On shore, at some point handy for railway and harbourage, a little village was to be established with *ateliers* for the drying and preparation of the catch. The expensive refrigerators used at Home would not be necessary on the ships, which would return at intervals with their catches. Such fresh fish as would be required for local towns could be quickly sent in special boxes. The bulk would be dried and salted in the native fashion, for native consumption. Fish glue could be manufactured from the fins and other remains, while the residuum would soon find use among agriculturists. He selected a place near the rapidly rising port of Vinh, between which place and Hongkong he foresaw possibilities of a regular service of steamers. After certain dredging operations now going on were finished, big steamers could get in in all weathers, and the railway to be completed this month (February) would bring Hanoi within ten hours. He applied for a concession of about fourteen or fifteen acres of sandy beach near Xuan-Dam, on the island of Cà-Bà, on which to erect the manufactories, store rooms, and workmen's dwellings. It was not granted. General CORONAT explained that this territory was reserved for military purposes. M. VILLAREM, who had

been figuring out big dividends, was apparently too disappointed to try again, or select a fresh place. He cannot understand what soldiers can want with a strip of sand on the edge of the sea, and pathetically exclaims, "mystery and good will!" He also speaks of the General as an old soldier who is unable to realise the importance of true colonisation, the sanctity of commerce, and so on. On the 25th December, a date which should have put him in a kinder frame of mind, he writes "Brave homme va!" General CORONAT's departure is not yet announced, however; so that was probably taken as the Gallic equivalent of the Irish "Arrah go on." Seriously, there was probably a better reason for the refusal than M. VILLAREM has thought of. It may be that the Colonial Government hesitated to encourage the taking away of the livelihood of the numerous native fishermen and their intermediaries. M. VILLAREM thinks his project would not do that, as his employees would fish the deep sea, but he says nothing on the point of capturing the native markets for which the present fishing populations cater.

### THE TERMS OF PEACE.

(Daily Press, 18th February.)

In various quarters, the terms upon which peace can be re-established between Russia and Japan have been already discussed. Although it would seem premature to speculate upon them before the war is concluded, there are still some salient features, which have been from time to time debated to such an extent that it is possible to arrive at a fair conclusion as to the manner in which they are likely to be treated, when a final settlement has to be arrived at. One of the chief points that will have to be settled is of course what will have to be done as regards Manchuria. It was Russian aggression into that country that was the primary cause of the war; and unless all that has been done is to become futile, no definite peace or settlement can be arrived at unless a stop is put to Russia's pretensions in that direction. One thing appears to be certain, and that is that the independence of Manchuria, from either Russian or Japanese domination, will be strongly pressed by any foreign nations who may be able to influence the final decision in any way.

The policy of the United States in this matter has been already definitely declared. It will be recollected that, just before the war broke out, a treaty was concluded between the United States and China by telegraph, (a mode of communication never before used for a final diplomatic settlement) by which it was agreed between America and China that Mukden should be opened up to foreign trade. The significance of this convention at the particular time is manifest. It was equivalent to declaring that the United States recognised formally that Manchuria still remained under China, in other words that the United States entirely ignored Russian claims to authority in that quarter. This action was as definite as it was prompt. Its meaning was unmistakable, and the Russian Press did not disguise the annoyance which it produced at headquarters. That opinion on this point in the United States has not since changed we have had abundant proof. Recently we read from the correspondent of a London paper in Washington that precisely a similar attitude was sustained there, it being asserted in official circles there that the restoration of Manchuria to China would undoubtedly be one point to be insisted upon by America "in any settlement in which



she took part." Whether America or any other foreign nations will directly take part in the final settlement seems doubtful; but, indirectly, there can be no question that foreign nations will have considerable influence in the matter by bringing their views before the Chinese Government and inducing China to act as they deem desirable so far as this can be shown to be to the interests of China herself. We may with tolerable safety assume that Great Britain will be in favour of the same policy as regards Manchuria as that indicated by America; and, so far as China is concerned the fact that she entered into the Treaty as to opening Mukden to foreign trade is sufficient to indicate that she is anxious that that country shall be recognised as reverting to her sway.

The difficulty, however, is that if Manchuria is given back to China after the war, China may before long again prove herself unable to maintain her hold upon it, so as to exclude any renewed aggressiveness on the part of Russia. If Manchuria were given up immediately after the war to China, it is much to be feared the latter would again show herself too weak to maintain her sway unless she were directly supported by foreign nations in some way, or by Japan. The former mode of action would scarcely commend itself in face of recent experience. Promises by Russia in respect to such matters have not proved to be anything that can be relied upon, and some better guarantee than any assurances on her part would be required, but such assurances would be all that could be obtained by combined action of other foreign nations to support China. So far as Japan is concerned there is no reason to believe that she would not be willing to leave Manchuria alone and so be relieved of the responsibility of holding it, as soon as she is guaranteed that her leaving it will not be the signal for renewed Russian attempts. Japan must have some guarantee against the recurrence of the danger which has brought her into collision with Russia; and for some time at all events these must be of a material character. Of this the Chinese must themselves be fully aware; and it is a fact that can scarcely be ignored by foreign nations generally. Under the circumstances, what seems the most likely solution is some arrangement by which Japan, while recognising Chinese authority in Manchuria, will help the Chinese to govern or at least to protect it for some time. So far as can be judged from what has been declared by Japan from time to time she would be willing to undertake the task of holding Manchuria in company with China; and on the whole it appears most probable that some such arrangement will be arrived at. Such a plan might be found to work well, both for the interests of Japan and of foreign nations. The fact is undoubted that for some time to come at all events assistance will have to be given to China to enable her to maintain her hold upon Manchuria, and short of its being taken over by Japan, which for many reasons might not be desirable, some such scheme for joint Government as above suggested, seems the most reasonable solution of the difficulty. It has been pointed out in the *St. James Gazette*, which is usually well informed upon matters connected with the East, that the probability is that the Japanese are not so much averse to the war being protracted for some time as at first would be supposed, as the longer the war lasts, the longer Japan has for the organisation of China's military power; and "with China prepared to assert her right to her own property at the end of the struggles, the future is much clearer for Japan, and

obviates the necessity of rushing matters at the present stage." If this is the view entertained by the Japanese, it would also seem to indicate the likelihood of some species of military protectorate being established for a time over Manchuria; and possibly this might be arranged in such a manner as to secure China against a renewed invasion of that country while still leaving the civil administration in her hands, and recognising her full territorial authority.

### HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

13th February.

The chief topic of the week must surely have been the Weather. The "Great Cold," according to the Chinese Calendar, should have arrived last month, but it missed its way to Hongkong and did not reach us till the beginning of February. On January 23rd the temperature reached as high as 79.3 F; for the past week the mercury has not risen much above 40 degrees, and the prevailing modes are sables and furs and blanket coats. The druggists should advertise cures for colds and chilblains. I notice that the Director of the Weather has been playing strange pranks in Europe also. In the early days of the year it was colder in the South of France than in Scotland.

Next to the weather, we have had the Beachcomber Question to talk about. The intimation made by the Colonial Secretary that the Government is contemplating legislation to deal with this scandal is a very welcome piece of intelligence. Hongkong gets far more than its fair proportion of wasters, and we have to thank Manila for it. I see that the Philippines Government last year actually deported 74 men of this worthless class, while they were only able to find a dozen destitutes worthy of assistance. I think we may fairly assume that at least 70 out of the 74 were dumped on our shores, and we may likewise surmise that a much larger number finding life too hard for them in Manila contrived to make their way here without waiting the order of the police of Manila to "move on." It only needs determination on the part of the Government to put a stop to this dumping, and I think the past twelve months have plainly shown the need for resolute action.

There is another lesson which this Colony might learn with advantage from the neighbouring American Colony. Congress has recently approved legislation for the Philippines which will enable the Insular Government to extradite criminals from foreign countries. Could we also get the Philippines to take back their own criminals? Why, for example, should we maintain for life in the gaol the insane Filipino who the very first day he reached Hongkong murdered a compatriot in the harbour, and being found to be insane is detained in prison at the Colony's expense during the Governor's pleasure?

A Government Notification appeared in a recent issue of the *Gazette* which has scarcely received the notice it deserves. Members of the public who consider they have cause of complaint against the Post Office are particularly requested by this Notification to bring the matter to the notice of the Postmaster-General. It is further intimated that in the case of delay or misdelivery of letters it will be sufficient to forward the cover with a note of the exact time and place of delivery marked on it; if enclosed in an envelope no stamp will be required. It is obvious that in the absence of full details promptly supplied it is impossible to discover causes of complaint or take steps to prevent them.

If the public will co-operate with the Post Office in this way, I suspect it will be shown pretty clearly that the public is more often at fault than the Post Office. Letters often miscarry in this way: The "boy" is told to post a letter; he too often delegates this "pidgin" to the coolie, who in turn gets some "good fien" to do it for him, and the latter perhaps forgets or is too inquisitive. I suspect this

is often the cause of the delay or the loss of a letter. Then, again, how little the public do in Hongkong to secure the safe delivery of their letters? How many houses are there in the Colony with letter-boxes in the doors as the general custom is in England? The number of such houses, if there are any, must be extremely small. The stealing of letters by postmen is not unknown in England, as the police court records sufficiently show, and I do not suppose our own Post Office staff is absolutely above suspicion in this respect; but it is very probable that they are blamed more frequently than the facts, if they could be properly investigated, would justify. It would therefore be more satisfactory to all concerned if the public would co-operate with the Post Office in the manner indicated in the Government notification.

The alterations in fares on the electric tramway as they are set forth in the advertisement appear satisfactory and to the advantage of the travelling public, but on a closer examination one discovers that there is good reason for not advertising the new scale of fares as a "Reduction in fares." When I first read the announcement I assumed that the shareholders were prepared to content themselves with something less than 33½ per cent. (which is said to be the dividend earned last year), and had consequently resolved to make a reduction in fares. But alas, that is not the reason for the change. Under the new scale, the fare from the Post Office to Arsenal Street will apparently be 10 cents! The shareholders will have no compunction about accepting a dividend of 50 per cent. or even 100 per cent; the alterations appear to be dictated by a resolve to stop speculation on the part of conductors which has been notoriously common. The new scale will doubtless do much to stop it if the company maintains a staff of vigilant inspectors, but it occurs to me that if the company, in spite of the speculation which has been going on from the commencement of the service, is able to pay a dividend of 33½ per cent. the investment would still be a very remunerative one if the "two-penny tube" system were adopted—say, a fare of 10 cents first-class any distance.

BANYAN.

### CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Feb. 14th.

#### LAWLESS CANTON.

As is customary during the fortnight of the Chinese New Year, the compounds in front of nearly all the joss houses are taken up by crowds of hawkers, sweetmeat and toy sellers, gamblers, fortune-tellers, jugglers, idlers, artisans, thieves, rogues and vagabonds. Some play battledore, others dice, and miscellaneous music beguiles the populace. Beggars are there to pester sightseers. If a foreigner happens to go to the joss house to see the five hundred josses, or the Honam temple to see the colossal Buddha, the beggars and little scamps generally follow him closely, yelling out "tai-pan, cumshaw." If he did not give, they would insult, and provoke him, hanging on to his chair, pulling it about, or pelting at him, until he could not stand it any longer. Were he to belay them with his walking stick it would be the worse for him. He would come out with his head broken, his dress smeared over with dust or his chair smashed. If a woman or a girl were to go into the joss house to chin-chin joss during these few days, she would be pestered and her dress torn into shreds. This is the cause that prevents most people from visiting the joss houses during the New Year days. On the second day of the new year some gamblers were playing at dice in the compound at the entrance of the Hoi Tong-tai or Honam temple, and a few soldiers went to squeeze them of a few cash. They refused to pay and a soldier pulled out a revolver to threaten them. They wrested it from the soldier and with a knife cut his hand. They then had a fight, and the soldiers got the worst of it, and ran to their headquarters to raise more men. The vagabonds knew it and took to their heels. The soldiers then returned to the number of about one hundred and fifty, armed with rifles



and swords, and made quite a clean sweep of the place, pulling down and destroying all the matcheds and stalls.

#### CHINESE POLITICS.

It is said in official circles that His Excellency Shum Chon Hui who hitherto has been acting Viceroy of Kwangtung and Kwangsi for the last three years, is now by an Imperial order confirmed in his post, because of his success in suppressing the Kwangsi rebellion. Some of the mandarins that have been degraded by him, are to be re-instated in their positions, the provincial governor, Cheang, having again sent in his resignation of the governorship.

#### FAINT-HEARTED POLICE.

Since the trouble which gave rise to the strike and rioting among the shopkeepers in Sop Pat Pa street on account of house rent, there has been no police vigilance in that place. Consequently robbery is of daily occurrence, and it is not considered safe enough for people to walk about there. The shopkeepers have made arrangements to employ a number of men to watch the premises for their protection.

### SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 10th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK V. THE WAI SHING HING BANK.

The hearing of this action was continued. The plaintiffs claimed from the defendants damage suffered by reason of the breach by the defendants of a contract dated 4th October 1904, made between the plaintiffs and the defendants, whereby the defendants agreed to purchase from the plaintiffs a draft on London payable on demand for the sum of £2,000 sterling at exchange 1s 9 7/8d and which said contract was to be completed on the 30th November 1904. The defendants failed to complete their purchase on due date and the plaintiffs alleged that they have accordingly suffered damages to the extent of \$785.85 by the defendants' alleged breach of contract.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. N. Ferrers, instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Mr. G. K. H. Brutton's office) for the defendants.

All evidence having been concluded Mr. Ferrers addressed the court for the defence. He submitted that the transaction in question was simply a deal in differences—a gamble—and for that reason alone plaintiff bank was not entitled to recover any damages. By common law a wager against the public policy was not a legal transaction. It had been held that a wager on the life of Napoleon was against the public interest. Napoleon might have been murdered, it was suggested, and though this was a very remote reason it was considered sufficient. A wager as to what would be the sex of a child had been held to be against the public interests on the grounds of it being an indecent wager. Another as to what would be the amount of the public revenue was held to be illegal because it led to improper discussions and was contrary to the public policy. One judge in dealing with a case of this sort had said that the courts had gone far enough in encouraging improper wagers, which were contrary to the public policy.

His Honour—This wager is contrary to the policy of your bank (laughter).

Mr. Ferrers—My bank does not now exist; but it certainly was a wager against the public and was therefore bad. There is a statute to prevent stock jobbing.

His Honour—George or William?

Mr. Ferrers—George, but it is still law and has been applied to recent cases. The statute does not mention gambling in exchange because in those days they could not foresee such a thing.

His Honour—That statute has been repealed.

Mr. Ferrers—Yes, but that fact does not effect its applicability to a case in this colony.

You must apply the old law in those cases which the local legislature does not provide for.

Mr. Pollock—That is the Stock Jobbing Act.

Mr. Ferrers—It includes all wagers which affect the public securities of the country, and likewise the credit of the Government of the country. It is perfectly competent to gamble in shares—Doors, Sugars, etc.—but not to gamble in ways which affect the credit of the country, such as this gambling for instance, which is calculated to reduce in value the currency of the country. There can be no greater as set to a country than its currency and therefore this transaction would be mischievous. You cannot say that pounds or dollars, the sterling currency of the country, do not constitute a public security. They do, and a (the) most important to the country. They cannot have a fixed value unless the dollar and pound are both on a fixed basis. As they are not, this gambling has a tendency to depreciate consols.

Mr. Pollock The act to which you are referring was enacted at the time of the South Sea Bubble, and in consequence of the South Sea Bubble.

Mr. Ferrers proceeded to quote authority to show that contracts for compounding differences were not only void but illegal. This setting on differences as far as public stocks were concerned was certainly illegal.

His Honour—Is this a public stock?

Mr. Ferrers—Yes, the rule applies to those things which are public securities in any way whatsoever.

His Honour—Produce a case in which so gambling in differences has been held illegal.

Mr. Ferrers—If you say that sovereigns are not public security it is no use my proceeding with this subject.

His Honour—The currency here is dollars. Pounds are not public security; merely chattels.

Mr. Ferrers—Well then it would affect the dollars. And should you hold that this was a valid transaction you will then have to consider another question—who must be held liable?

His Honour—My present view, which of course may change, is that I shall not be called upon to determine whether or not this was gambling in differences. If I were satisfied that it was gambling in differences there would be an end to plaintiff's case, but I am not satisfied that it was.

Mr. Ferrers—The case is one in which an agent deceives both parties. Are we responsible for his fraud or does the loss lie where it has fallen? They chose to trust this agent knowing nothing about the principal and yet when the agent breaks down, they come on the principal.

His Honour—They did know of the existence of the bank and therefore did know of the principal.

Mr. Ferrers—Li Yak Chee, the agent, said that there was a bank, and that he was the manager; and the others trusted to that.

Mr. Pollock—There is evidence that they actually went around and called at the defendant bank.

His Honour—That is so and before any contract was made. It does not matter who they were it was certain that there was a bank and that the bank was the principal. They could find out the constituents afterwards.

Mr. Ferrers—We say that the plaintiffs were entirely misled. Tai Tsz Ho misinterpreted Li Yak Chee's authority—that is the kernel of the case. Buying drafts for cash and dealing in differences are very different things, and the plaintiff should not have inferred without enquiry that Li Yak Chee had authority to deal in differences. This is a case of gambling on the street.

Other points raised by Mr. Ferrers were that the character "Wai" on the draft was not the correct character, and therefore the draft should be looked upon with suspicion. There was no chop on the draft; and the characters of Li Yak Chee's signature on the draft were not the same as those characters appearing in the Wai Shing Hing Bank's wages book. These points went to show that the transaction should have been regarded as a private one of Li Yak Chee who had not the authority he said he had.

His Honour—There is a certain amount of evidence as to the custom of Chinese banks. Three witnesses said that it was the custom of

Chinese banks to buy and sell drafts similar to the one in question.

Mr. Ferrers—Then I suppose that this sort of gambling is very prevalent in the Colony. No doubt the practice is the custom of Chinese banks; yet that does not affect our bank, because our rules expressly forbade it. The evidence shows that this sort of business may be done by unauthorized people; there is no trace of this sort of business in our books.

His Honour—Was there an effort to compromise? That is another question.

Mr. Ferrers—There was a very great difference between the evidence of the witnesses on this point. Tai Tsz Ho was an interested witness. We faced him with a witness who, though he came from the same village as the defendants, was an independent witness.

His Honour—There was not an effort to compromise?

Mr. Ferrers—We sent no one to compromise. When Chinese got talking, there is no saying what they may or may not have suggested.

Mr. Ferrers closed his argument and the case was adjourned.

Saturday, 11th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

DEUTSCH ASIATISCHE BANK V. THE WAI SHING HING BANK.

The hearing of the bank draft and exchange suit was continued.

Mr. Ferrers having concluded his defence on Friday, Mr. Pollock addressed the Court. He reviewed the evidence point by point and then argued that if the defendants held out Li Yak Chee, their absconding agent, to have authority to sell demand drafts the plaintiffs were also entitled to assume he had authority to sell forward drafts.

His Honour—That is the kernel of the case.

Mr. Pollock—If this man was by the defendant bank given authority to buy and sell on demand they cannot stop short and say "we had something in the rules about it." These alleged rules were private, so a third party could not be expected to be bound by them.

His Honour—If A told B that C was a partner in the bank and B told you, that is evidence. If I hold out a man as a partner to Mr. Gedge, Mr. Gedge may infer that he has authority to transact business in connection with the partnership.

Mr. Pollock—There is no difference in effect between the rules of the power of an agent and the rules of the power of a partner acting as agent for his co-partners.

His Honour—If you hold a man out as a partner it follows that he has power to do every thing in connection with the partnership, but if you hold out a man as an agent you only say he is an agent for a given purpose.

Mr. Pollock—Well, how am I to say he has only authority to that extent; how am I to draw a very fine line? I can only say that he did that very business not only with the plaintiff bank but with other banks; he had, in fact, authority. It seems that it is borne out by Mr. Gaspar's evidence that he had received authority from the defendant bank to deal in forward drafts. Li Ung Ting in his evidence said that there was an accountant in the defendant bank, a man who kept the books, and yet they did not bring this man forward as a witness. The very groundwork of their case is that the account books were properly kept, and that all the account books were produced. I submit that all the account books were not there. Li Ung Ting said that he could not bring account books later than the 1st February 1904 and tried to bridge over the period between that date and the 1st November, when the bank was closed, by saying that during that interval there really was no business transacted. There must have been wages, salaries, advances and all sorts of petty disbursements. And these books ought to have been produced; so you have not had all the books. In a question put to Li Ung Ting you find that certain transactions of a character to appear in the books did not



appear in them - transactions about the deposit of money and of drafts. Therefore it seems to me that there must be some book which is missing and you have had no evidence that they kept a sterling account in a special book. I would submit that the distinction they seek to draw is very fine indeed. We say that transactions of this nature have taken place between this man and the Chartered Bank and Hongkong Bank. I therefore think it only reasonable to suppose that there must have been another book.

His Honour—It would also be reasonable to suppose that Li Yuk Chee might have done all this business on his own behalf.

Mr. Pollock—Some account books are missing. It is unreasonable to suppose that no accounts have been kept between February and November. And if, for instance, a man in the Hongkong Bank is held out to have authority to sell drafts for cash, it cannot be held to be unreasonable to assume that he can sell drafts forward. The distinction is so fine that Your Lordship sitting as a jury should not act upon it.

His Honour—The question is whether the evidence you produced is sufficient.

Mr. Pollock—I submit that it is.

His Honour reserved judgment.

Monday, 13th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR S. H. BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

THE YAN CHEUNG FIRM V. THE SAN YEE CO., LD.

This is a claim for \$11,991 damages sustained by the plaintiff firm, of Bonham Strand West, on account of the defendants' non-delivery of yarn. The defendants carry on business in Des Vaux Road.

The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. John Hastings appeared for the plaintiff firm; and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) for the defendants.

The Hon. Mr. Sharp, in opening, said:—There are seven contracts between the plaintiffs and the defendants; and this action is to recover damages for non-delivery of yarn under these seven similar contracts of sale. The plaintiffs show that these contracts were made on three dates close together, the 8th, 17th and 20th of December 1903. The first of these contracts is for 200 bales, at \$109 per bale, of which the plaintiff got 167 bales only; and 300 bales at a slightly advanced price, \$109½, which the defendants were unable to deliver in any part. On the 17th December there were five contracts. Altogether these added 700 bales which the plaintiffs were unable to deliver; and on the 20th December there was one contract for 500 bales which the defendants did not deliver. So there was a total of 1,700 bales of which the defendants have only delivered 167, leaving 1,533 still due. The contracts were expressed to be for cargo in godown, but, as it turned out, the defendants had only "paper cargo," and nothing, or at any rate no great amount in the godown. That is to say, the defendants entered into the contracts for the sale of yarn which they had not got, speculating on the state of the market when they should have to deliver, and the market went against them. The price rose, and the defendants were unable or unwilling to meet their obligations. They were unable to go into the market and buy this large amount of yarn, in order to satisfy the plaintiffs, at the contract price. We shall prove a rise in the market after the date of the contract. In January 1903 the market price was about \$116 per bale, a very considerable rise from \$109 per bale. In the middle of February there was a slight reprieve on account of the war. In the middle of March the price was again \$116; and before the end of March it was \$120. Thence to the time of the issue of the writ, I do not understand it had fallen below \$120 but it might have gone down a little, to \$119½. And this, as we shall show, is the cause of the trouble. It is important to observe what is the usual way of getting delivery under such contracts. We shall prove that when the buyer wants instalments of the goods he writes delivery orders on the seller,

and the seller gets a godown warrant—that is with godown cargo. The goods were expressed to be actually in the godown, and the buyer gets his goods on the spot.

His Lordship—Is your case that the defendant is not bound to deliver unless asked for delivery?

Counsel—Yes, that is so. Just a few important instances:—Five days after the first contract was made, on the 13th December, 1903, we demanded delivery of 108 bales, by sending a delivery order; and tendered the money for them at the contract price, \$109. The defendants had no goods or said they had none in the godown. On this point it is rather important to mention that the defendants gave our messenger an order upon two other merchants with whom they said they had contracts. Our messenger went to the shop of these two other merchants, and the orders were dishonoured. The defendants consequently returned to the plaintiffs the plaintiffs' original order. I shall prove that a very large number of similar requests, altogether about thirty, for delivery of goods, were made during the next few weeks. Sometimes the defendants delivered a little yarn, and these small amounts totalled 167 bales altogether. Generally the defendant's said they had none. They said that they expected yarn; it was coming; they would have it soon. This ran on till March; and the final demand by the plaintiffs was on the 11th April, when they were tired out. Regarding the contracts, delivery was, according to the usual custom, to be on demand during three months. As two blanks were left in the form of contract, the custom applies. The contract is headed "Godown goods." With goods not applied for till after the expiration of three months \$5 is charged on each bale of yarn. That is, if we do not demand delivery within three months, we have to pay \$5, and godown rate then onward runs at our expense. Sixty cents per bale per month, or two cents per day, is the customary rate charged after the expiration of three months to cover godown expenses, insurance and interest. The position is this:—the seller undertakes that the goods are in his possession deliverable on demand; and the buyer is in a position that he may take delivery at any time within three months without further charge, and if he does not take delivery within the three months, and the seller continues to hold the goods for him, then the buyer will become liable for the charges I mentioned. The buyer cannot, though, be held liable for these extra charges if the seller has not got the goods, as is the case for the defence. The seller cannot charge him insurance etc. for goods he has not got.

His Lordship—The requirement to pay a deposit shows that the goods must be there.

Counsel—Yes, he says "Very sorry, I haven't got the goods; you can break the contract if you like." Can he then charge insurance and godown expenses? On the 3rd March there was an important interview between the parties. On that day the manager of the plaintiff firm and several other merchants similarly situated, unable to get yarn out of the defendants, called on the manager of the defendant company, and requested him to deliver yarn for the thirtieth or fortieth time. The defendant managing partner explained that they could not deliver, as their own vendors, Yunnan merchant, had made default under contracts with them. He then said they hoped to be able to deliver in a few days, and proposed to the plaintiff manager that he should take over these contracts (with the Yunnan merchants) instead of the yarn. This offer was declined, because the plaintiffs had already had every order on these same merchants dishonoured—orders by the defendants—and knew that the defendants would have got delivery long ago if the goods were obtainable. The cargoes were in fact "paper cargoes." Subsequently the broker went round to the merchants and found in fact they had no yarn. On the 4th March, the following day, the broker, Chan Pun Sen, obtained a list from the plaintiffs of all the yarn due under the contracts, and took it to the defendants for their perusal. On the 9th March there was another important interview between the parties. The managing partner of the defendant company had had the list and invited the plaintiff manager and other merchants to dinner at a restaurant. The defendant had a friend of his

own and all the rest present were merchants in the plaintiffs' position. The matter was fully discussed at that dinner and the defendant admitted liability, as always he had done, but said they could not deliver. The plaintiffs' manager asked the defendant to buy from the so-called foreign firms, as there was plenty of yarn in the Colony, though, of course, the price was up. The defendant declined saying that he hoped to have yarn in a few days. After this dinner the parties were in almost daily communication through the broker. The plaintiff continually requested delivery, as they wanted yarn, and the defendants constantly procrastinated. On the 1st April the plaintiffs asked for 90 bales, and the defendants, as usual, said they had none; but they said that some friend of theirs, the Kwong Loong Chung, had 25 bales. Therefore the plaintiffs reduced the delivery order and made out a fresh one for 25 bales, and the defendants then gave them an order on the Kwong Loong Chung for 25 bales. This order, as usual, was dishonoured. The Kwong Loong Chung had not any, so the defendants returned the original delivery order. On the 11th April, I pass over other requests, the final demand was made. The plaintiffs being tired of waiting, a clerk went to Mr. Hastings, and then that same morning, accompanied by Mr. Hastings' clerk, went to see the defendants, and demanded a number of bales under the contract dated the 8th December. The man said he had not got any, and wanted them to take over the contracts of other merchants; he had no yarn. Thereupon Mr. Hastings wrote a formal demand and threatening action, and the forbearance the plaintiffs had hitherto shown ceased. The importance of this is that it not only shows the date the plaintiffs' forbearance ceased, but that the defendants up to this time did not make any suggestion of non-liability. This suggestion, mentioned for the first time in a letter from Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, clearly emanated from a lawyer's clerk.

His Lordship—It comes to a question of fact. Was the defendant asked and did not deliver, or was it that the plaintiffs did not ask?

Counsel—That is so; and if a buyer at a seller's request temporarily forbears to insist on the delivery, the damages ultimately for non-delivery are calculated on the market price when the buyer withdraws his forbearance. The plaintiffs did so when they refused to grant further indulgence, when their clerk went to the defendants with Mr. Hastings' clerk. We could have commenced an action every time they refused, but took it as a request and forbore as they said they expected goods in a few days. The questions for Your Lordship, I submit, are only two and very simple:—

1—Did the plaintiffs demand delivery of the goods in these contracts? I will prove that they did constantly and the defendants constantly procrastinated. The defendants submit that the plaintiff, holding these highly favourable contracts, abandoned all rights. There can be no doubt that they were highly favourable contracts, owing to the rise in the market.

2—Did the market price rise after the dates of these contracts? We shall prove that it did and immediately after, and very considerably. The defendants deny any rise at all, but I think the evidence on these questions can only be answered in the plaintiffs' favour, and that the plaintiffs will be entitled to judgment.

Evidence was led.

The case was adjourned.

Tuesday, 14th February.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK V. THE WUI SHING HING BANK.

The Puisse Judge gave judgment in this action. As on previous occasions Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. J. Gedge (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. N. Ferrers, instructed by Mr. P. W. Goldring (of Mr. G. K. H. Brutton's office) for the defendants.

His Honour said:—This is an action in which the plaintiffs seek to recover a sum of \$785.84 as damages for breach of



contract under the following circumstances. It is alleged that on the 4th of October, 1904, the plaintiffs sold to the defendants a £2,000 sterling draft at exchange 1/9½ to be taken up on the 30th November, 1904, that defendants failed to take up such draft on the due date and that plaintiffs, to cover themselves, sold a draft for £2,000 sterling at exchange 1/10 11-16, thereby losing \$785.84 being the difference between £2,000 at 1/9½ viz. \$21,912.86 and £2,000 at 1/10 11-16 viz. \$21,157.2. The contract sued upon was in the following form:—

No margin allowed

DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK.

Hongkong, 4th Oct., 1904.

Messrs. Wui Shing Hing.

Amount Usance Rate On Delivery Rmks.  
£2,000 0/d. 1/10 Lon'n Oct., 1904.

1/9½ " Nov., "

at his option  
Broker.

This form was endorsed "Wui Shing Hing, Li Yuk-chee." The defendants resisted the claim on four grounds:—

(a) That the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank are not proper parties to the action;

(b) That the transaction was a gamble in differences forbidden by 8 and 9 Vic. C. 109 section 18; and, failing that Statute, by 7 Geo. II C. 8;

(c) That Li Yuk-chee had no authority either direct or conferred by defendants' conduct to purchase forward drafts;

(d) That Li Yuk-chee in buying forward drafts was engaged in private transactions on his own behalf.

As regards defence (a), it was the plaintiff bank which entered into the contract; that bank was therefore properly made the plaintiff, and it makes no difference that the ultimate liability for any loss would fall on the plaintiffs' compradore. As regards defence (b), even on the assumption that this transaction was a gamble in differences, 8 and 9 Vic. C. 109, S. 18, passed in 1845, which rendered such transactions null and void is not in force in this Colony; and 7 Geo. II C. 8, (A.D. 1734) being "An Act to prevent the infamous Practice of stock-jobbing," does not touch this case. So that we are thrown back on the Common Law which forbade only such wagers as tended to indecent evidence, or to disturb the peace of the individual or of society, and were not against public policy. This transaction is therefore not within the law. There being then no law in this Colony against gambling in differences, it is not necessary to decide whether the present transaction was one of that nature or not. Defence (c) is, in my judgment, the only defence open to the Wui Shing Hing Bank. If Li Yuk-chee was acting within the apparent scope of his authority, the unknown motives by which he was actuated in making the contract do not exempt his principal the Wui Shing Hing Bank from liability; therefore defence (d) stands or falls with defence (c). Now the plaintiffs contend that they have proved (1) direct authority to Li Yuk-chee to purchase forward drafts; (2) that the defendants have by their conduct held out Li Yuk-chee as having such authority; (3) that the defendants made an offer of compromise and thereby admitted liability. From the introduction to the rules and from the rules themselves framed for governing the business of the Wui Shing Hing Bank, I take the following extracts: "This Tong has purposely established in Hongkong the business of the Wui Shing Hing Bank especially doing the business of deposits and loans and undertaking the business of exchange, and sales and purchases of subsidiary coins and dollars." Again, "This firm especially does business in silver, deposits and loans, and undertakes the business of exchange. It does not make contracts for the purchase of gold coins and sterling drafts. If any one secretly makes a contract of purchase, this will not concern the firm, and the assistant will be dismissed." From these extracts it is clear that deposits, loans, exchange, and dealings in silver were the business of the defendant bank, and that contracts for the purchase of sterling drafts were excluded. But Li Ng-t'ing (who, I hold, is the managing partner of the defendant bank) says in evidence "We received deposits, lent money, bought and sold dollars and small coin, received remittances from Canton, Fat-han and Macao, and bought and sold sterling drafts. Sterling drafts were brought to our

bank and paid for in cash. We also sold for cash. We also deposited such drafts as security for loans from banks." Obviously then the business of the bank had overflowed beyond the channels of business defined by the rules. Li Ng-t'ing further said that the rule prohibiting contracts for sterling drafts forbade contracts for future gold and silver bills only, and that his bank never bought drafts to be paid for at a future date. We have got this far then viz: that the rules of the bank prohibiting contracts for the purchase of sterling drafts had been relaxed at any rate to the extent of the bank purchasing sterling drafts for cash and not for settlement at a future date. The next question is, what authority if any do the rules confer on the assistants in the defendant bank? The preface to the rules says "We hope that our various assistants will be careful and just and united in mind and action so that riches may come in abundance and profits may remain in perpetuity." Rule 1 lays down that if an assistant secretly makes a contract for the purchase of sterling drafts he will be dismissed.

I think that the inference to be drawn is that the assistants had power to transact the business detailed in the rules and were only prohibited from buying sterling drafts.

But this prohibition has been relaxed to the extent that the purchase of sterling drafts to be paid in cash and not at a future date has been practised by the defendant bank. It follows therefore that the assistants had direct authority to purchase sterling drafts for cash down and not on credit.

In this state of affairs it is contended for the plaintiffs that the line between buying sterling drafts for cash and buying sterling drafts on credit is so fine that when it is proved that a person had actual authority to purchase for cash, it is a fair inference that the same person had actual authority to buy on credit; or at any rate that the actual authority to buy for cash coupled with the proved authority to sell sterling drafts for cash and to pledge sterling drafts against loans, justify the inference that the defendant's have held out Li Yuk-chee as having authority to transact all the classes of business usual in banks and therefore the authority to purchase sterling drafts to be settled at a future date. I have just spoken of the proved authority to sell sterling drafts for cash, and to pledge sterling drafts against loans. The plaintiffs have shown that on seven occasions, Li Yuk-chee, purporting to act on behalf of the defendants, deposited either sterling drafts or American gold dollars or English sovereigns with the plaintiffs as security for loans, and that these transactions appear in the books of the defendants. They have also shown that, on two occasions, Li Yuk-chee sold, on behalf of the defendants, sterling drafts to the Chartered Bank which paid ready money, and that these transactions are recorded in defendants' books. Upon the evidence, the conclusion forced upon me as a jury is that the defendants have, by their conduct, represented that their assistant Li Yuk-chee had authority to purchase sterling drafts to be paid for in the future. They authorised him to do certain acts of a class usual in their business as bankers and thereby represented him as having authority to do other acts of the same class of business.

As regards some miscellaneous points in the case, I am of opinion that the presence of the wrong character Wui on the back of the contract, and the use of two different characters by Li Yuk-chee in writing the third character in his name, are immaterial. I think that the words "at his option" in the contract refer to the Wui Shing Hing Bank and do not indicate that the contract was made with Li Yuk-chee alone. The absence of the "chop" of the Wui Shing Hing from the contract does not affect the question whether Li Yuk-chee was held out as having authority. That a "se" means no more, on the facts of this case, than that the defendant bank was, as was very likely the fact, ignorant of this particular transaction on the part of their authorised agent. If a bank is started it must be presumed, in the absence of express notice to the contrary, to undertake the usual business of a bank. And it has been proved that the buying and selling of sterling drafts, without limitations as to the nature of such drafts, are part of the usual business of Chinese banks. Whether

an offer of \$1,000 or thereabouts was made by the defendants to compromise the plaintiffs' claims on this and other transactions, was a matter of very conflicting evidence. As I have been able to decide the case on other grounds, I am relieved from expressing an opinion on that point and upon the effect of such an offer, if it had been made, as an admission of liability by the defendants. The books of the defendant bank appear to have been kept properly. The effect of the absence of any reference in them to the present transaction extends no further, on the facts of this case than this, viz. that the defendants had no knowledge that Li Yuk-chee had negotiated the contract now sued upon: this however cannot affect the defendant's liability. There will be judgment for the plaintiffs for \$785.84 and costs. I certify for Counsel.

Mr. Pollock applied for immediate execution. Mr. Ferrers—On behalf of the defendants I think I should have time to consider your Judgment.

Mr. Pollock—Will your Lordship give leave to issue execution immediately on the expiration of the period, seven days, in which notice to appeal must be given.

Mr. Ferrers had no objection and the application was granted.

Thursday, 16th February.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR S. H. BAKERLEY (CHIEF JUSTICE)

THE YAN CHEUNG FIRM V. THE SAN YEE CO., LD

The hearing of this claim for \$11,991 damages sustained by the plaintiff firm on account of the defendants' non-delivery of yarn was concluded. As before, the Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. John Hastings, appeared for the plaintiff firm; and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. R. F. C. Master (of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master) for the defendants.

The hearing of evidence on behalf of the plaintiff firm ended, the Hon. Mr. Sharp said:—The evidence called is equally applicable to the second action between the same parties, Action No. 82 of 1904. As the contracts are identical in each case, when this case comes on for trial the evidence may be read. Each of us might have to add something, but it would save an amount of time if this evidence is regarded as evidence in the second action, with liberty to call other witnesses. It is the same yarn.

Mr. Pollock concurred.

Hon. Mr. Sharp—And in the third action, so far as it is applicable this evidence might be read. The broker's evidence, for instance, is the same, and with other evidence there is little difference. Instead of calling the same parties their evidence might be read.

Mr. Pollock—I cannot concur in that, as it is different yarn.

His Lordship—Wait till the hearing of the action.

Mr. Pollock—I have considered the case very carefully and the evidence given on behalf of the plaintiffs, and I must frankly admit that the case made by the plaintiffs is too strong to get over. It would be waste of time to call evidence which I do not think would affect Your Lordship's judgment. I think there are one or two points that still remain, but they are points of law, so I do not intend to call any evidence. A point I wish to raise is whether the plaintiffs can reasonably come before the court to recover a loss which they have not actually sustained, and the plaintiffs ask the court to award damages which they have not actually sustained. There are 500 bales, for instance, which the plaintiffs went into the market and bought, and with reference to these, of course, damages must be paid. Perhaps my friend wants an adjournment to consider the point.

Hon. Mr. Sharp—No, not at all.

His Lordship—This is Mr. Pollock's position—he does not call evidence of fact but submits that the plaintiffs have not shown any actual loss, and therefore no judgment for damages can be given.



Mr. L. BERINDOAGUE—I beg to second.  
Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be ready at ten o'clock to-morrow morning, on application. Thank you for your attendance.

### HUMPHREY'S STATE AND FINANCE CO. LTD.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The nineteenth ordinary annual general meeting of shareholders of this company was held at the office of the company, Alexandra Buildings, Des Voeux Road, at noon yesterday. There were present:—Messrs. H. Humphreys (Chairman) J. A. Jupp, H. W. Slade, Ho Tung, J. S. Van Buren, A. G. Wood, J. Scott Harston, E. Georg, A. A. D. Rosa, Ho Fook, J. W. C. Bonnar, E. H. Heinz, W. H. Gaskell, J. Sunners, J. Lewis and J. L. Cottar (Secretary).

#### ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN, in moving the adoption of the annual report and statement of accounts (a report of which has already appeared in these columns) said: Gentlemen,—The report and statement of accounts have been in your hands for some days, so with your permission, I will take them as read. The result of the year's working may, I think, be regarded as satisfactory. From very humble beginnings this Company has gradually worked its way into a strong and sound position and one that compares favourably with any other undertaking of a like nature in the Colony. If we had greater banking facilities, we could produce better results. Your general managers and directors trust before long to be able to make arrangements to place the Company on a better footing in this respect. There is not much in the accounts that calls for explanation. You will note that amongst the liabilities, Insurance Reserve Fund has been increased by \$3,386.93, an amount which represents the risks underwritten by the Company itself during the past year. Turning to profit and loss account, the only item that calls for comment is Exchange \$7,152.59 which figures on the credit side of the account. This has been brought about by paying off a mortgage of £10,000 on one of our properties at Kowloon and represents actual realised profit. I have nothing further to add, but if any shareholder has any questions to ask, I shall be pleased to answer them.

Mr. GEORG, in seconding the motion, said he congratulated the General Managers and Shareholders on the excellent showing of the year, and trusted that the year now commencing would show an equally good report.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. HUMPHREYS moved that Messrs. J. S. Van Buren, J. Scott Harston, H. W. Slade, A. G. Wood and Ho Tung be re-elected as a board of directors.

Mr. Ho Fook seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. J. A. JUPP moved that the retiring auditors, Messrs W. H. Gaskell and W. H. Potts, be re-elected.

Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar seconded the motion, which was agreed to.

This concluded the business, and the chairman informed shareholders that dividend warrants were ready at the office.

### HONGKONG ICE CO. LTD.

#### ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-fourth annual meeting of this Company was held at the offices of Messrs Jardine Matheson and Co., Pedder Street, on February 13th. There were present:—Hon. W. J. Gresson (Chairman), and Messrs. W. Parlange (Manager), P. Dow (Secretary), W. Dixon, H. P. White, F. Smyth, D. Clark, C. Mooney, T. Forrest, A. Rolger, A. B. Smith, W. A. C. Cruickshank, B. Layton, C. W. May, Ho Fook, Ho Kum Tong and Lo Kum Shui (shareholders).

#### ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The CHAIRMAN in moving the adoption of the annual report and accounts, which have already been published in these columns said:—

GENTLEMEN,—With your approval I propose to take the Report and Accounts as read. The receipts for Ice as compared with the year 1903, show a decrease of about \$7,800, the major part

of which is traceable to the absence of Japanese steamers; on the other hand I am pleased to say revenue received from Cold Storage exceeds that of 1903 by \$1,300 and from this branch of our business, the prospects of which appear to be satisfactory, we look for increased earnings in the future. Turning now to the other side of the Account, under the heading of Salaries Wages and General Trade expenses there has been a saving of \$9,600. The New Machine referred to at the last meeting was completed in July, and has since been working satisfactorily. In order to ensure our keeping pace with demand it has been necessary to order seven new ice boxes, and at no distant date it is hoped calls on our Cold Storage will necessitate the insulation of the two rooms already built for that purpose. With this outlay to face, and also bearing in mind the possibility of opposition which is ever before them, your General Managers have considered it prudent to appropriate a further sum of \$25,000 for Contingencies, and this will I trust commend itself to you. If any shareholder wishes to ask any questions I will be pleased to answer them.

Mr. DIXON had great pleasure in seconding the very successful report drawn up. He considered they occupied a very enviable position in that they had about \$120,000 in the bank—a position such as few companies in the East were in. Their manager was not only a competent engineer, but a very shrewd business man as well.

#### RE-ELECTION OF AUDITOR.

Mr. SMYTH proposed the re-election of Mr. Thomas Arnold as auditor.

Mr. RODGERS seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business, gentlemen. Dividends will be ready to-morrow on application.

### THE LAOU KUNG MOW COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LIMITED.

The report for presentation at the eleventh ordinary meeting of the Company read as follows:—

The Directors submit their Report, together with the Accounts of the Company, for the twelve months ending 31st December, 1904.

The year has been one of exceptional difficulty owing to the great fluctuations in the values of cotton and yarn.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last General Meeting, the sum of Tls. 49,168.44 has been written off to Depreciation Account.

This year's working shows a credit at Profit and Loss Account of Tls. 44,039.86, including Tls. 15,500 brought forward from 1903, which the Directors recommend be dealt with as follows:—

|                                          |                |
|------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Depreciation of Mill Buildings...        | Tls. 3,800.00  |
| Reservoir and Land Improvements ...      | 5,000.00       |
| Machinery ...                            | 25,000.00      |
| Furniture ...                            | 239.86         |
| To be Carried forward to New Account ... | 10,000.00      |
|                                          | Tls. 44,039.86 |

#### DIRECTORS.

Mr. Korff resigned the Board on leaving Shanghai and Mr. C. Michéau was asked to join the Directors: his election will require the confirmation of the Shareholders.

Mr. J. M. Young and Mr. Chian Liang-yu retire in rotation as required by the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for re-election.

#### AUDITOR.

During the absence of Mr. Geo. R. Wingrove the Accounts of the Company have been audited by Mr. W. H. Anderson on his behalf: the re-election of Mr. Wingrove to the position of Auditor will require the confirmation of the Shareholders.

J. M. YOUNG, } Directors.  
C. MICHEAU, }

ILBERT & Co., General Managers.  
Shanghai, 2nd February, 1905.

The accounts are as follows:—

#### PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

31st December, 1904.

| Dr.                                     | Tls.      | Tls.            |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| To interest .....                       | 23,914.63 |                 |
| To less rentals of Chinese houses ..... | 2,169.02  |                 |
|                                         |           | 21,745.61       |
| To repairs and renewals .....           | 5,556.16  |                 |
| To agency commission .....              | 4,500.00  |                 |
| To directors' and auditor's fees ...    | 2,250.00  |                 |
|                                         |           | 34,511.77       |
| To depreciation .....                   |           | 49,168.44       |
| To balance .....                        |           | 44,039.86       |
|                                         |           | Tals 127,280.07 |

| Cr.                                       | Tls.            |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| By balance 1903 .....                     | 64,168.44       |
| By transfer fees .....                    | 13.17           |
| By unpaid dividends account .....         | 80.00           |
| By balance of spinning account 1904 ..... | 62,498.46       |
|                                           | Tals 127,280.07 |

#### BALANCE-SHEET.

31st December, 1904.

| LIABILITIES.                                                  | Tls.            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Capital:—8,000 shares, of which are issued 7,158 shares ..... | 715,800.00      |
| Overdraft at bankers .....                                    | 154,920.65      |
| Loan against cotton .....                                     | 40,000.00       |
| Sundry creditors .....                                        | 7,863.28        |
| Balance of profit and loss account .....                      | 44,039.86       |
|                                                               | Tals 962,123.79 |

| ASSETS.                               | Tls.       |
|---------------------------------------|------------|
| Buildings .....                       | 195,576.47 |
| Part cost of godown .....             | 787.19     |
|                                       | 196,313.57 |
| Machinery .....                       | 626,008.61 |
| Less depreciation .....               | 131,008.61 |
|                                       | 495,000.00 |
| Property (Chinese houses) .....       | 52,405.76  |
| Less depreciation .....               | 12,405.76  |
|                                       | 40,000.00  |
| Reservoir and land improvements ..... | 32,839.86  |
| Less depreciation .....               | 12,839.86  |
|                                       | 20,000.00  |
| Furniture .....                       | 3,335.80   |
| Less depreciation .....               | 1,376.71   |
|                                       | 1,959.09   |

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Additions during year ..... | 152.23   |
|                             | 2,111.32 |

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Value of stock:—               |                 |
| Yarn .....                     | 102,106.34      |
| Cotton and waste .....         | 82,690.35       |
| Coals .....                    | 485.00          |
| Mill stores .....              | 20,657.06       |
|                                | 205,938.75      |
| Unexpired fire insurance ..... | 2,760.15        |
|                                | Tals 962,123.79 |

### HONGKONG & WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.

The report of the board of directors of this company, for the ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders, to be held on Monday, 20th February, at noon, reads:—

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you their report, with a statement of accounts for the half-year ended 31st Dec, 1904.

The net profit for the six months, after paying interest due and all charges, amounts to \$370,159.03 to which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account 505,471.73

\$875,630.76

and from this have to be deducted—  
Directors' fees ... \$10.0 0.00  
Auditors' fees ... 750.00

10,750.00

leaving available for appropriation...\$864,880.76

The directors recommend that a dividend for the half-year of 12 per cent. or \$300,000, and a bonus of 2 per cent. or \$50,000, in all \$350,000, be paid to the shareholders; that \$16,591.66 be written from the value of Kowloon Docks, and the balance \$498,289.10 be carried to the new account.

The tonnage of ships repaired shows some diminution attributable to temporary causes.

A large shipyard shed adjoining the ship-builders plant has been completed.

The electrical shop has been extended by removal of the Galvanizing and Sandblast plant to new quarters.

The entire foreshore frontage has been dredged by the "Canton River" to facilitate repairs of ships alongside.

A large twin screw vessel for the Yangtze, and a survey vessel for the United States Government have been successfully completed.



## DIRECTORS.

Mr. J. H. Lewis and the Honourable Mr. C. W. Dickson having left the Colony, Mr. H. P. White and the Honourable Mr. W. J. Gresson have been invited by the Directors to the vacant seats at the Board. These appointments require to be confirmed by the Shareholders at this Meeting.

In accordance with Clauses 78 and 85 of the Articles of the Association Sir C. Paul Cha'er, Kt., C.M.G., and Mr. J. S. Van Buren retire by rotation, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.

Sir C. Paul Chater, Kt., C.M.G., has been re-appointed Chairman for the year 1905.

## AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Thomas Arnold and H. U. Jeffries. The Directors recommend Messrs. Arnold and Jeffries for re-election.

C. P. Chater,  
Chairman.

Hongkong, 10th February, 1905

The accounts are as follows:—

| CAPITAL ACCOUNT.                                                                           |                          |       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| 31st Dec., 1904.                                                                           | ASSETS.                  | \$ c. |
| Aberdeen.                                                                                  |                          |       |
| To value of Aberdeen Docks as per last statement                                           | 100,000.00               |       |
| Kowloon.                                                                                   |                          |       |
| To value of Kowloon Docks, as per last statement                                           | 2,285,937.85             |       |
| Less amount since written off                                                              | 35,937.85                |       |
|                                                                                            | 2,250,000.00             |       |
| To amount paid in connection with purchase of Hung Hom inland lots Nos. 63 and 16          | 6,000.00                 |       |
| To working expenses of dredger Canton River dredging foreshore in front of iron store, &c. | 12,675.10                |       |
| To amount paid on account of removing hill at back of new forge                            | 200.00                   |       |
| To amount paid on account of new electric installation                                     | 6,256.00                 |       |
| To amount paid on account of shipyard machine shed extension                               | 21,373.00                |       |
| To amount paid on account of new galvanizing shop                                          | 4,638.00                 |       |
| To amount paid on account of new stone piers & wharves                                     | 1,232.00                 |       |
| To amount paid on account of new drawing office                                            | 8,244.56                 |       |
| To cost of new machines for new fitting shop                                               | 5,973.00                 |       |
|                                                                                            | 2,316,591.66             |       |
| Cosmopolitan.                                                                              |                          |       |
| To value of Cosmopolitan Dock, as per last statement                                       | 301,890.09               |       |
| Less amount since written off                                                              | 1,890.09                 |       |
|                                                                                            | 300,000.00               |       |
| To value of tug, Dredgers, launches and lighters                                           | 434,011.00               |       |
| To sundry debtors                                                                          | 865,826.80               |       |
| To value of material on hand                                                               | 1,676,585.24             |       |
|                                                                                            | \$5,193,147.70           |       |
| 31st Dec., 1904.                                                                           | LIABILITIES.             | \$ c. |
| By shareholders for 50,000 shares of \$50 each, fully paid up                              | 2,500,000.00             |       |
| By admiralty loan £20,000 0.0                                                              |                          |       |
| Less repayments 15,405.18.7                                                                |                          |       |
|                                                                                            | £4,594 1.5 at 1/7 1-1 th |       |
|                                                                                            | 57,840.10                |       |
| By marine insurance account                                                                | 33,500.00                |       |
| By sundry creditors                                                                        | 1,726,043.84             |       |
| By balance of profit brought forward from last account                                     | 605,471.73               |       |
| By profit                                                                                  | 370,159.03               |       |
|                                                                                            | 875,630.76               |       |
|                                                                                            | \$5,193,014.70           |       |

## REVENUE ACCOUNT.

|                                                                  |              |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 31st Dec., 1904.                                                 | \$ c.        |
| To interest                                                      | 47,821.78    |
| To Crown rent                                                    | 3,110.05     |
| To fire insurance                                                | 3,170.95     |
| To office expenses, salaries, stationery and rent of head office | 37,368.97    |
| To drawing office expenses and salaries                          | 11,173.88    |
| To telegrams                                                     | 1,650.80     |
| To legal expenses                                                | 79.00        |
| To marine insurance account                                      | 8,000.00     |
| To towage                                                        | 493.32       |
| To profit                                                        | 370,159.03   |
|                                                                  | \$493,660.76 |
| 1st July to 31st Dec., 1904.                                     | \$ c.        |
| By net earnings of the company's three establishments            | 481,764.09   |
| By dredger net earnings                                          | 1,454.52     |
| By business on insurance premia, &c.                             | 502.21       |
|                                                                  | \$483,720.82 |

## ASSAULT ON THE S.S. "FOREST HALL."

## MAGISTERIAL DILEMMAS.

Some weeks ago we recorded a fracas which took place on the s.s. *Forest Hall* in which Beck and Wall two sailors, the former armed with a belaying pin and the latter with a knife, closed in combat. On that occasion Beck, on appearing at the Police Court, was bound over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace for six months. He again appeared before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz on February 15th, and at the instance of Inspector Langley of the Water Police, was charged with assault. His Worship, on hearing the evidence, discharged the defendant, but on taking his seat on the bench again in the afternoon, said he had re-considered the evidence and would re-hear the case, as he wished to re-consider his decision. The defendant was not charged with disorderly conduct, but it had been proved that he was extremely disorderly, and used bad language to both the First and Second Officers. The evidence of the apprentice who was standing some way off proves that the Second Officer did, as a matter of fact, strike the defendant on the face before the defendant struck him with a bottle. The apprentice was more likely to take a clear view of the case than the two officers who were engaged in a heated altercation with the defendant.

The Second Officer, recalled, stated that the mark on his forehead was made by defendant, who struck him with a bottle.

His Worship: If the defendant were charged with disorderly conduct I would have no difficulty in dealing with the case. Defendant is charged with assault, and the blow was struck with a bottle, which is a dangerous missile. If the Second Officer struck him, I do not think he had any need to use a weapon like a bottle in self defence.

Inspector Langley here pointed out that two months ago the defendant was bound over in the sum of \$100 to keep the peace for six months.

His Worship: I do not find that either the First or Second Officer necessarily gave false evidence because it was conflicting with other evidence. It is much more difficult for men engaged in an altercation to know what goes on than it is for anybody entirely outside with a clear view.

His Worship, to defendant: Is it correct, as stated by the Police, that you were bound over in a bond of \$100 to keep the peace for six months, two months ago?

Defendant: I admit the charge.

The Chief Officer, in reply to His Worship, stated that the ship would be leaving about Sunday next.

His Worship. Do you want the defendant back on board?

The Chief Officer; I leave that with Your Worship.

His Worship, to the defendant: Have you anything to say why the bond should not be forfeited? You have committed an offence which is in law a breach of that bond.

Defendant: I had no intention of committing a breach of the peace.

In reply to His Worship, the Chief Officer stated that defendant had £6 due to him, but the Shipping Master would claim that on paying him off. At the beginning of the passage defendant behaved himself and did his work well. Later on he got insolent to the Second Officer and himself. He had nothing more given him to do than he signed on for. He was given the leading position of his watch, simply because he was a good sailor, but he took advantage of it. Towards the latter end of the passage he tried to raise trouble among the men.

Defendant, replying to His Worship: I am not in a position to pay the bond money.

His Worship: I do not want to see another man stranded in Hongkong.

Inspector Langley stated that if defendant were convicted, another man would be shipped from here in his place.

His Worship: The bond is clearly forfeited, and I have no option. For the assault the defendant will be fined \$25 or 21 days. I think the best thing would be to allow him to pay the fine, and commit him to gaol until such time as the ship goes, when he can be put on board.

The Chief Officer informed His Worship that the Captain refused to pay any fine.

His Worship: There are many points in a case like this, and I should like such cases to go before a Marine Magistrate if possible. Defendant is fined \$25 or 21 days and the \$100 bond to be forfeited, and in default of payment 21 days hard labour concurrent with the other. That is how I shall leave the matter at present. I may re-open the case before the vessel sails.

At the Police Court on Feb. 16, Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz again reheard the charge of assault against the sailor, Beck, of the s.s. *Forest Hall*. As the Captain of the vessel was now willing to pay the fine, and take the man back on board, defendant was re-instated after being bound over in a further bond of \$100 to keep the peace for six months, and cautioned not to appear before His Worship again.

## FOREIGNERS IN A CHINESE CLUB.

Beachcombers, taught now that they must be provided for, are repairing the Government omission, and taking the law into their own hands. They seem to think Government will help those who help themselves. An illustrative affair took place in the early hours of the 14th instant at a Chinese Club in Jervois Street. At about 2 a.m. on the morning in question, Chief Detective Inspector Hanson was called, and informed by several excited natives that four Europeans had "held up" members who were present at their Club, and got away with a sum of money. At present it is understood that the Europeans, who are alleged to be practically destitute, went to the club in question on the previous night for a gamble. It is stated that when the small amount they were possessed of had nearly dwindled away, they left the table, stating that they had been cheated. They then took their departure, returning in the early morning. Again they took their seats at the gambling table to try to retrieve their previous losses. Play had scarcely begun when more cheating was noticed. A row followed in which one of the Europeans is alleged to have drawn a revolver and covered the Chinese while his friends took possession of the bank. They then made a speedy exit. The Chinese who reported the matter are reticent, probably fearing that they will furnish the Police with evidence for the opening of a gambling case against the Club. They stated, however, that the Europeans got away with about \$30. Two men have been arrested in connection with the affair. One informed the Police that he knew the whereabouts of the other two implicated, but did not think it an honourable action to give two "chums" away, so would say nothing with regard to them.

A Joiner, G. Terrell, F. Dalton and B. Burke were charged before Mr. Gompertz at the Police Court on Feb. 16th with robbing one Wong Sam of a purse containing \$32 in a Chinese Club in Jervois Street, about midnight on the 13th instant, and at the time of such robbery using personal violence. Terrell was further charged with being armed with an offensive weapon, to wit, a revolver. Chief Detective Inspector Hanson prosecuted.

Wong Sam declared: I arrived here from Canton on the night of the 11th inst. I went to the Cheong Kue, No. 106 Jervois Street, to meet a friend. After leaving my luggage at the Club I went out and feasted with friends. On the night of the 13th I returned to the Club at 11.30 p.m. When I got there I saw two people shaking dice. This was in the sitting room. There were about six present, all Chinese. After I had been there a short time the fourth defendant came in and sat down for a while. He then went out again and returned about a quarter of an hour afterwards. Shortly after this, the first and second defendants entered. As soon as the second defendant came in he pointed his revolver at us. The first defendant kept watch at the door. I said in Chinese "What is the matter?" I then went to get up, but the second defendant pointed the revolver at me, so I remained seated. The second defendant spoke to the fourth defendant, and then the second and fourth defendants went into the other two rooms and ransacked the place. The first defendant



Mr. Pollock—If they had been able to purchase in the market and had actually purchased, then the defendants would have suffered damages. They cannot ask Your Lordship to give them a sort of present as damages. We have to pay the loss actually sustained and are not obliged to give a present in addition. That they are entitled to an indemnity we cannot dispute.

His Lordship—You say it is not a question of what they might have done, but the loss they actually sustained in having to buy goods. They are claiming a loss for profit they could have made had they got the goods you sold them, a loss of profit.

Hon. Mr. Sharp—I put it, the question of damages in this case is this:—(1) the measure of damages on account of the non-delivery of goods is calculated by the ordinary market price at the time when the goods should have been delivered; (2) where the buyer at the seller's request has temporarily forbore to insist on his rights as to the delivery, then the measure of damages for ultimate non-delivery is the ordinary market price at the time when the buyer withdraws his forbearance. I think these two rules govern the case and on these two rules one claim is based. The plaintiff might have brought his action earlier, but he forbore at the request of the defendant till the final letter of the 11th April, and at that time a reasonable time was given for the defendant to deliver the yarn. The market price was then \$20 per bale. The market price as a measure of damages may be proved by purchase of goods or in any other way satisfactory to the parties, but going out to buy goods is merely one way. In some cases where there is a regular published price list this can be placed before the Court. It is hardly material that the plaintiffs should go out and buy goods in this case. I think we have clearly established \$121 per bale was the price, but we put our claim at one lower than that, taking \$121 per bale as the price. I would refer Your Lordship to one or two authorities out of Mayne. The only point my friend has is that we can only claim the market price and not any special price. Let me refer Your Lordship to the case of Ogle and Vane in the Law Reports, and Hickman and Haynes.

Mr. Pollock—I would refer Your Lordship in the first instance to the statutory provisions, sub-section 25 of Ordinance 4 of 1896, the Sale of Goods Ordinance, corresponding to the previous Home Act of 1893. As regards the question of dates, it was some day between the 16th and 26th April. The market price seems to have been fairly constant at that time, but we lay stress on these words "the measure of damages has *prima facie* to be obtained." They did not say as they would have said if my learned friend were correct, that the measure has to be ascertained and reckoned as liquidated damages. What they say is that "the measure of damages has *prima facie* to be obtained." It is only *prima facie* damages which of course, in perhaps ninety-nine cases out of a hundred would in England be a real measure of damages; the plaintiff would, in fact, have gone into the market and bought the goods and would claim the real loss he sustained.

His Lordship—Apparently you dispute that one wishing to speculate on secret information he obtained would be entitled to speculate on the price he was buying at. Say that information had been received a week previously of such a reliable and confidential character that speculating was an absolute certainty. That, in fact, the market did rise, but that the goods are not delivered. Is the buyer not right to recover what he would have made if the contract had been fulfilled? I think the measure of damages is what could have been made if the contract had been carried out.

Mr. Pollock—The loss must be an actual loss.

His Lordship—If I enter into a contract in December for goods to be delivered in January at \$100 per bale and in January the goods cost \$13 per bale it is my right to claim damages at \$30 per bale, the difference between the contract price and the market price when the contract should have been fulfilled.

#### JUDGMENT.

In giving Judgment His Lordship said:—I do not think I can do anything else than give judgment for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed, for the reasons are so obvious. This

contract was made for the delivery of yarn at a certain price. The yarn was not delivered when it should have been. The plaintiffs forbore their insistence of delivery at the request of the defendants, and still it was not delivered. They had, in effect, postponed the date of the breach of the contract till the date when the plaintiff withdrew forbearance and insisted on delivery. The plaintiffs claim at the rate of \$120, and I think they are to be given that sum as the measure of calculating the damages. I do not think there is any necessity for reference as the evidence here is all that could have been given on reference. Therefore judgment must be given for the plaintiffs for the amount claimed.

Hon. Mr. Sharp—I am prepared to call on the other case.

Mr. Pollock—I should like a little time to consider the position.

His Lordship—The case can be called at the conclusion of the Criminal Sessions.

Saturday, 18th February.

#### IN CRIMINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR H. S. BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

#### ARSON—THE HOLLYWOOD ROAD HOLOCAUST.

Chang Chung and Tang Hop were charged:—Setting fire to a dwelling house (No. 168, Hollywood Road) persons being therein; (2) setting fire to a dwelling house.

Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., Attorney General, instructed by Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, Crown Solicitor prosecuted; the prisoners, who pleaded not guilty, were not legally represented.

The following jury was empanelled:—Messrs. W. S. Brown (foreman), E. C. Wilks, E. Thomas, E. Smith, P. Plage, J. McCorquodale and F. Kiene.

Hon. Mr. Sharp said:—Gentlemen of the jury, these two persons are charged with setting fire to a dwelling house in Hollywood Road on the 12th January, there being at the time several people sleeping in the house, some of whom were unfortunately burnt. These two men were the cook and the coolie employed in the shop on the ground floor of the dwelling house where the fire broke out. The facts are that at two o'clock in the morning a Chinese police sergeant off duty was passing along Hollywood Road near the shop, and heard a shout of "fire." He then saw the first prisoner standing, fully dressed, at the door of this shop looking into the shop, the door being open. The sergeant got out of the chair in which he was and went to the open door and looked into the shop himself, but could see no fire. The sergeant was naturally suspicious and got hold of the man, and immediately after that the other man ran out of the door and the sergeant took hold of him. Immediately after that fire suddenly broke out in the shop, and was accompanied by a strong smell of kerosene and dense volumes of smoke which could only have been made by kerosene; and immediately after that the whole place was in flames. The sergeant said to the prisoners "That is your doing!" and the first prisoner answered "My master ordered me to do it." The sergeant said "where is your master?" and the prisoner said "He has gone to Canton." A tradesman had just passed the shop and hearing a noise went back, and arrived on the scene just as the prisoner was saying "My master ordered me to do it," and he said "You will be punished for this!" and the prisoner made no reply. Others will speak for the strong smell of kerosene and of the extraordinary rapidity with which the fire spread, which could only have been caused by kerosene. The police then came up and took the prisoners under arrest. The house was a veritable death trap. The houses in Hollywood Road and Square Street stand back to back, but the level of Square Street is very considerably above the level of Hollywood Road, about three stories higher. There are three stories in Hollywood Road which may all be described as basement houses, none opening into Square Street, the exit being into Hollywood Road. The only exit from the upper floors of this Hollywood Road house was cut off with the result that not only were several lives lost—

four—in that house, but six more were lost in a house in Square Street which caught fire also. The reason for the crime was the usual reason of defrauding insurance companies. The ground floor of the house in question was kept as a Chinese herb shop, recently insured for \$1,500. I shall prove that an attempt was made to get it insured for a larger amount, and the evidence will go to show that there was nothing in the shop. The prisoners' statements subsequently made at the Police Station did not contain very much, but were totally inconsistent with the statement made at the time. One prisoner said he blew out the lamp at ten o'clock, and the other said the fire was caused by a lamp falling. One of the prisoners said an old kerosene tin upset. Several kerosene tins were afterwards found. The statements were totally inconsistent with the facts.

Evidence, a repetition of that given at the Police Court and reported in the *Daily Press*, was then led.

The first prisoner said that a kerosene can produced was used for cooling tea.

Inspector D. Gourlay said:—Three bodies were found in No. 168, Hollywood Road. One, that of a woman, was found on a beam in the back part of the second floor where the fire did not reach. The bodies of two children had fallen with the debris on to the ground floor. One man was burnt and escaped, and died on the following day. In 39, Square Street, on the first floor six bodies were afterwards found on a part of the floor not burnt away.

The prisoners again declared that they were not guilty.

In summing up His Lordship said:—The prisoners are charged with perhaps the most heinous crime which could be committed. That is, setting fire to a dwelling house in which people are sleeping. In this case, whatever was the cause of the fire the results have been terrible in the extreme. No less than ten persons have been burnt to death. One witness called said how he was awakened by hearing a disturbance in the street, and going to see what it was discovered that there was a fire in the room below. He just had time to pick up one of his children, a boy, and escape to the upper floor, and with the assistance of one or two friends, escape to the adjoining house by breaking a partition. Unfortunately he was unable to save his wife and two other children, the children found in the debris below and wife on the floor of the second story. This is all very terrible, but what you are concerned with here is the occurrence and not the effect—whether the prisoners are or are not responsible for the fire. The charge is that they deliberately, acting on behalf of the man who had insured the ground floor where he kept a drug shop, set fire to the shop.

After some further remarks by the Chief Justice, the jury retired to consider their verdict.

A verdict of guilty on the first charge was returned.

His Lordship, addressing the prisoners, said that if he sentenced them to death, the sentence would not be too severe, but he had not the power to do that. The law, however, gave him power to inflict on them a terrible penalty, and he intended to inflict it—imprisonment for life.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—Our streets have been full of Russian non-combatants from Port Arthur during the holidays, and as these visitors are likely to be with us for another ten days at least, we are glad to be able to bear testimony to their generally excellent demeanour, notwithstanding the difficulty they have in making their jinnichamen understand where they want to go. Their pockets, almost without exception, are full of money, for up to the surrender they were earning from eight to twelve roubles a day in Port Arthur. This universal wealth is proving rather embarrassing to the captain and agents of the Princess Marie, which is to take away a large contingent of them. Hitherto in a steamer crowded with emigrants it has always been possible to find many who would gladly assist in the stewards' and cooks' departments for a bonus of fifty or a hundred dollars, and the assistance is urgently required, but these men are so well off that they have been approached in vain. "We've got plenty of money, why should we work?" is their reply to the offers made them.



## COMPANIES.

ONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION.

The seventy-ninth ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held at the City Hall on February 18th. Mr. A. J. Raymond (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson, Hon. Mr. R. Shewan, Messrs. H. E. Tomkins, E. Goetz, H. Schubart, E. Shellim, N. A. Siebs, H. W. Slade, and E. S. Whealler (Directors), Mr. J. M. R. Smith (Chief Manager), Messrs. T. Arnold, C. E. Anton, J. M. Alves, W. H. Cruickshank, J. A. Chinoy, G. B. Dodwell, A. Forbes, E. Georg, C. J. Gonsalves, Capt. F. D. Goddard, W. H. Gaskell, C. S. Gubbay, H. C. Gotla, D. D. Gazder, S. Hancock, T. F. Hough, Ellis Kadoorie, E. S. Kadoorie, S. H. Michael, J. R. Michael, S. J. Michael, J. MacArthur, C. W. May, H. N. Mody, G. H. Medhurst, J. MacLaren, F. B. Marshall, H. M. H. Nemaze, W. G. Pirie, P. C. Potts, G. H. Potts, J. C. Peter, W. H. Potts, A. A. Roza, A. Rodger, N. J. Stabb, Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, Messrs. F. Salinger, C. A. Tomes, W. H. Wickham, A. G. Wood, Ho Fook, Lo Cheung Shing, and Ho Kom Tong.

The CHIEF MANAGER read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, after reading the report, said:—Gentlemen,—I think you will all join with your directors in looking on the report that I have just read as a very satisfactory one. Besides the usual dividend of £1 10s. per share we propose paying a bonus of £1 per share. As we are also able to provide for the transfer of one million dollars to Silver Reserve Fund and write two lacs dollars off Bank Promises account, we feel justified in recommending the increase of the 10s. bonus, which you have been accustomed to receive since 1899, to £1 on this occasion. The higher rate of exchange on the 31st December, at which the dividend for this half year is declared, lessens the amount in dollars, compared with the corresponding period last year, to an appreciable extent; our funds in the East were well employed during the six months and we had to deal with easier money in the home markets, other favourable circumstances also helped to swell the profits for the period under review, and for these reasons I would recommend you not to build your hopes on a continuation of the £1 bonus, but rather to consider the present as an exception. Under these circumstances we thought it only right that the Staff should be admitted to a share in the Bank's prosperity; they have all worked well and the results shown give ample proof of this and speak eloquently as to the way in which your interests have been looked after, and in voting the members of the Staff a well deserved bonus of 15 per cent. on their salaries, your Directors felt that they were only anticipating and giving effect to what would be your own wishes in this respect. (Applause). I may mention that, as customary, full provision has been made for all bad and doubtful accounts and I trust the proposed distribution of profits will receive your approval. Comparing the various items in the balance sheet with the previous report, you will observe that as usual our note circulation is higher than in June half year, and at \$16,422,593 shows an increase of \$163,349 over the corresponding period in 1903. There is a falling off in Silver Current Accounts of \$5,000,000 which may be chiefly put down to money being in strong demand towards the end of the year. Silver Fixed Deposits have increased \$2,000,000. Gold Fixed Deposits and current Accounts show a total increase of close on £2,000,000—this is largely accounted for by proceeds of Loans temporarily deposited with our London Office. Bills payable are lower by \$3,000,000.—On the other side taking the amounts of Cash, Coin lodged with the Government of Hongkong against excess note issue, and Bullion in hand and in transit, together, there is no appreciable difference in the total figures. Indian Government Rupee paper is practically the same, but Consols, Colonial and other securities stand at \$9,214,976.98 as

against \$6,713,396.96. Sterling Reserve Fund investments remain unchanged. Bills discounted, Loans and Credits are about \$1,500,000 less while Bills receivable at \$115,009,136.44 are higher by fifteen million dollars, but this is chiefly due to the increased funds in London already referred to, which enabled our Office there to carry a larger proportion of our Eastern remittances than usual and is reflected in the reduced amount of Bills rediscounted as notes in the margin of the Report. The war continues to be a very disturbing element in the Far Eastern mercantile world, dislocating ordinary trade channels and making general business difficult and unsettled. I will not venture to forecast the end, but for the sake of humanity, the happiness and well being of the people of two great nations, as well as in the interests of trade and commerce, it is earnestly to be hoped that the conflict will soon be terminated. When peace does come, I trust sincerely that the hopes which have been so confidently expressed of the permanent opening up to the trade of the world of these regions where the scene of the war is placed, will be fully realized, and that every nation will participate on equal terms in what will undoubtedly prove to be large and important markets for us all. A return of confidence must follow the restoration of peace, and with this should come a revival of trade, fresh developments and new enterprises in China, a situation of which this Bank from its position and resources out here is ready and able to take full advantage. I have now to refer to a matter which I am sure you will all be sorry to hear about, and that is the retirement of Sir Ewen Cameron, our Senior Manager in London. He has been stricken with a severe illness and was very anxious that the Directors should accept his resignation. I need hardly say that it was only in deference to his own wishes that we acceded to his request, and we did so with great reluctance, deep regret and sincere sympathy for himself and family. Sir Ewen Cameron's name will have a prominent place in the history of the Bank. He joined here in 1867, shortly after the Bank was started, and he has had a very large share in raising it to its present position. (Applause). His ability, tact and kindly disposition commanded success wherever he has served the Bank. Many of you will remember him as Manager in Shanghai where, as also in the North of China, he did so much to build up our business. I can look back myself 24 years in Shanghai and at that time there was no better known or more popular resident in the settlement than Mr. (as he then was) Ewen Cameron. A man of broad views and sound judgment, he took a prominent part in negotiating the early Loans issued by the Bank for the Imperial Chinese Government, and the friendly relations which were then established between that Government and the Bank, I am glad to say, exist to day and I hope will always continue. Since he went to London he has also taken the leading part there in negotiating the various Chinese and Japanese Government loans which it has been the Bank's good fortune to be so prominently associated with. His marvellous energy and whole hearted devotion to the general interest of the Bank, and that of its Shareholders are well known to you all but perhaps nowhere has he done better service than in the City of London, where he made many good and influential friends for the Bank.

If any shareholder desires to ask any question I will be pleased to answer them.

I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. SALINGER—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the very satisfactory report and accounts which have been laid before us. The position attained by this institution, through the zeal and energy of all connected with it, is one of which we may well feel proud. I am sure that all the shareholders will appreciate the £1 bonus, and, though the Chairman has remarked that we may not always be so fortunate, I am convinced that, under the present able management, we may look forward to the future with all confidence. I cannot help expressing the sincere regret which must be felt by all at the retirement of Sir Ewen Cameron, and more especially at the very sad reasons for it. (Applause).

Carried.

Mr. THOS. ARNOLD proposed, Mr. ANTON seconded, and was carried—the re-election of Messrs. A. J. Raymond, N. A. Siebs and H. N. Tomkins to the Court of Directors.

Mr. MEDHURST proposed, the Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart seconded, and was carried—the re-election of Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and A. G. Wood as auditors.

The Chairman—That is all the business gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready by Monday morning. Thank you for your attendance.

Captain Goddard—Before closing I beg to move a vote of thanks to the Directors, Manager and Staff for their zealous efforts on behalf of the Company during the past half year. Think all the shareholders are quite satisfied with the dividends they have made. (Applause)

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO  
STEAM-BOAT CO., LD.

## HALF-YEARLY MEETING.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam-boat Company, Limited was held at the offices of the Company, No. 18, Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, on February 14. The Hon. Mr. W. J. Gresson (Chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. R. Shewan, Messrs. N. A. Siebs, E. Goetz, A. Haupt, E. R. Fuhrmann, H. Schubart, F. Salinger (Directors), Mr. Thomas Arnold (Secretary), and Messrs. G. T. Veitch, J. R. Michael, J. Arnold, Captain W. E. Clarke, L. Berindoague, T. S. Forrest and W. A. C. Cruickshank.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said:—Gentlemen, with your permission, it will be convenient to take the report and accounts as read. Your directors regret that, in placing these accounts before you, they have to recommend a reduced dividend, but it must be remembered that for the two previous half-years the higher dividend was only maintained by the withdrawal of \$50,000 from the Equalization of Dividend Fund and \$33,000 from the Depreciation Fund, and as, at present, there seems but little prospect of any material improvement of earnings in the near future, your directors consider that it would be unwise to weaken the Company's position by drawing further on its reserves for the purpose of maintaining a dividend greatly in excess of actual earnings, a policy of which they trust that shareholders will approve. For the past three half-years the net earnings of our steamers have run pretty evenly at about \$65,000, while for the six previous half-years the average was \$165,000. In other words, each of the past three half-years shows a decrease of about \$100,000 on the six months' working. The causes of this heavy falling off of our profits were fully explained at our two previous meetings and are so well known that it is needless to enlarge on the subject now. Suffice it to say that while competition overburdens the trade with tonnage far in excess of its requirements low rates must of necessity prevail and profitable working cannot be looked for. The direct West River Service, as you are aware, was resumed in the early part of last year. Results have so far been somewhat disappointing, but with a new working arrangement, which has recently been entered into, better returns from this source may be expected in the current year. The assets shown in our balance sheet all stand at safe values and there does not appear to be anything under this heading which calls for special remark, so unless further information be desired, I will propose the adoption of the report and accounts as they stand.

Gentlemen, there being no questions, I beg to propose that the report and accounts as presented be passed.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—I have very much pleasure in seconding.

Carried.

Mr. J. R. MICHAEL—I beg to propose the appointment of Mr. F. Salinger on the Board of Directors.

Captain W. E. CLARKE—I beg to second.

Carried.

Mr. G. T. VEITCH—I beg to propose that Mr. A. O'D. Gourdin and W. H. Potts be re-elected auditors.



was standing at the door leading into the sitting room while this was going on. Meantime I went out on to the verandah, and was about to return when the second defendant searched me and took my purse, while the fourth defendant held a lighted candle. The purse contained altogether \$32. I attempted to resist, but the second defendant pointed his revolver at me. I do not know the names of the other two Chinese who were playing dice, and have not seen them since. Shortly afterwards a European constable arrived, and defendants disappeared. I reported the matter to the Central Police Station and later on during the night the fourth defendant was brought in by the Police.

In reply to a question from the fourth defendant, witness said he did not include the value of the lottery tickets in his purse in the \$32 taken from him. His pocket book had not been found and returned to him.

Replying to the third defendant, witness said he did not remember him returning with a Police Officer.

To His Worship:—I did not complain to the Police officer who came in, because I could not speak English. Not one in the Club could speak English. The constable stayed about half an hour. He questioned us about the robbery through Chung Hok Ling, an interpreter, who came in.

Cheung Chan said:—I came from Canton with the last witness. About eleven o'clock on the night of the 13th the fourth defendant, who teaches boxing, came into the Club and had a look round. He was a frequent visitor, so we did not suspect anything. He went out and returned again shortly afterwards when I went to my room. On hearing a row I looked out of the door, and saw a tall European pointing a revolver. I also saw another man chasing the people. I thought he was drunk and had come to the wrong premises. I went to go out by the back door when the first defendant opened it. I ran to the other door, but he blocked me again. He then came in and caught hold of me by the sleeve, and the second defendant covered me with his revolver. I called out "save life," and put up my hand to ward off the revolver. I caught hold of it by the muzzle and twisted it down. I then pushed open the back door with my other hand and ran up to the next floor. From this floor I escaped into the next house, thence into the street, and informed the Police.

John Cooper deposed: On the 13th February, at the New Victoria Hotel, I met amongst others, the fourth defendant Burke. When we got outside he asked me to lend him my gun. I asked him what he wanted it for, and he replied—"Just for a bit of fun." I said I did not care about lending it, but when we got to the house I lent him a .45 calibre Colts revolver. I believe the revolver was empty, and did not give him any cartridges.

Witness, in answer to the fourth defendant: When you got the revolver you said you did not want any cartridges.

The hearing of this case was continued before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz at the Police Court on February 17th.

Frank Cooper, recalled: I identify the revolver I lent to Burke. The cartridges produced are similar to cartridges I have, and may have been in the revolver.

Witness, in answer to the fourth defendant, said:—There were no cartridges in the revolver I gave you. I have three different brands of cartridges. The ones produced are of copper, but I think I have some brass ones.

P. C. Winter deposed:—I was on duty in Queen's Road Central near Jervois Street on the night of the 14th. In consequence of information received I went to the Chinese Club in Jervois Street. I met the fourth defendant at the bottom of the stairs. He told me that some friends of his had been gambling upstairs. One of them had lost \$150, and finding the Chinese had been using loaded dice, there had been a little bit of a squabble. I asked the third defendant if his friends were still upstairs, and he replied that they were. I asked him to accompany me up to search for them, which he did. I first went to the servant's quarters. I met several *jokis* and asked them what was the matter, but they would not tell me. I went through the whole house, and on to the roof, but could not find

the Europeans. If any Europeans had gone down while I was making this search they would have had to pass an Indian police constable and a *lukong* stationed at the door. On going out on to the verandah, I saw an elderly Chinaman. I asked him what was the matter, but he would not tell me anything. I then decided that I could not do anything without a warrant and was going off to get one when I noticed Cheung Hok Ling going into the Club. I returned, and through the interpretation of Cheung Hok Ling, learned that the elderly Chinaman had been robbed. I learned from members that they knew one of the Europeans as he was engaged by some of them to teach them the art of self-defence. I then went to search for Burke who used to stay at the Hung Kee, Hollywood Road. Being unsuccessful, I returned to the Club, where I found the fourth defendant. I questioned him, and he said he had been robbed himself by Europeans, whom he thought were Police. He then asked me whether I thought he had anything to do with the matter. I said I had my doubts, and asked him to come to the Station.

In reply to the third defendant, witness said: I saw five twenty-cent pieces among the gambling paraphernalia in one of the rooms. When I entered the Club I surmised there had been a gambling squabble, and that the Chinese had got the Europeans to go away so that there should be no trouble.

By His Worship: When I saw the Interpreter, I asked through him why the Chinese did not tell me about the robbery. Their reply was that they were afraid. When I went upstairs there was nothing to indicate that warning had been given to the Europeans.

Frank Cooper recalled: After visiting my house and inspecting the cartridges produced, I find that some have copper case.

Cheung Hok Ling gave evidence as to interpreting for Constable Winter at the Club.

Lai On, licensee of an Opium Divan in Queen's Road, testified to the four defendants calling at his shop on the night of the 13th and smoking a pipe of opium. He was not sure that they all smoked. He could not see clearly as they all sat on one bed.

Detective Sergeant Murison gave evidence as to the arrest of the first, second, and third defendants.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson gave evidence as to the identification of the defendants at the Central Police Station from amongst ten Europeans. He then charged them in the Charge Room, cautioning them in the usual way before taking their statements.

The statements of the first three defendants, Joiner, Terrell and Dalton, showed that the scheme had been suggested by Burke, who told them they could make some \$8,000 without fear of being caught. Joiner and Terrell arrived here destitute, and although they had applied to many business houses here, were unable to get employment.

Burke, in his statement, said the plan was to go to the gambling house and gain possession of the money found on the gamblers, without using any violence. It was to be a trick in which Terrell and Joiner were to play the detective. He took the pocket book and contents back to the Club and left them on the staircase.

His Worship said on the statements made by defendants he had no option but to commit them for trial at the Criminal Sessions.

His Worship then told the defendants they could make a statement if they chose. Joiner and Terrell had nothing to say.

The statement made by Frederick Dalton, an American, was as follows:—I was unaware any arms were to be used. I thought it was only a case of obtaining by false pretences. I landed here with Joiner and Terrell in a destitute condition. I applied to most of my countrymen here, also to my Consul, for work or assistance. I received practically none from the Consul, and very little from the other people I applied to. I have served through several campaigns with the British in the Boer War, and got sixteen wounds, which now prevent me from doing any active bodily labour I applied to the Military here for work or assistance, but received none. Being desperate and hungry was the cause of our late unfortunate adventure.

Burke, in his statement, said Dalton was unaware how the affair was to be worked. Defendants one and two had asked him to hold up the Club before, but he refused. He only consented at last on condition that there should be no violence.

## CHINESE ATTEMPT TO ROB A EUROPEAN.

Mr. W. J. Scully had rather a painful experience at Wanchai on the 9th February. Late in the evening he took a ricksha from the Hongkong Hotel, and was bound for his home near Happy Valley. When near Slip Street his ricksha coolie pulled up and accosted two other coolies standing on the road. After conversing for a few seconds the two coolies ran on ahead. While going down the Morrison Hill Road Gap, Mr. Scully noticed two men standing by the side of the road. When the ricksha came alongside of them, the coolie stumbled and Mr. Scully fell out on top of him. One of the men standing alongside then approached, and while he was getting up, threw a handful of white powder into his face which blinded him for a short time. The men then tried to shove him down, but he fell against the ricksha, keeping his footing. During this time his eyes got well enough to enable him to see, and he gave chase to the two men, but was unable to overtake them. He next turned his attention to the ricksha coolie, whom he saw running off with his ricksha in an opposite direction. When the coolie saw he was being pursued, he dropped his ricksha and ran the faster. He was, however, overtaken, and conveyed to No. 2 Police Station, where charges of assault and attempted robbery were preferred against him. The hearing came on before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Police Court yesterday, when the coolie denied taking any passenger from the Hongkong Hotel on the night in question, and the case was remanded for further evidence.

The hearing of this case in which a ricksha coolie, with others not in custody, attempted to rob Mr. W. J. Scully on February 9th last at Morrison Hill Road Gap was continued before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Police Court on the 11th February. Mr. W. A. Ward gave corroborative testimony. His Worship found the defendant guilty. As Mr. Scully said he was leaving the Colony in a few days, and would not be able to prosecute at the Criminal Sessions, His Worship said he would deal with the case, and sentenced the accused to six months' hard labour, the maximum penalty within his power.

## HO GKONG CHURCH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Hoikong Church Missionary Association was held at St. Paul's College at five p.m. on the 14th February. The Rt. Rev. Hoare, Bishop of Victoria, presided, being assisted by the Rev. F. T. Johnson (Secretary). A large number of members were present.

In the report it was stated that the Association was formed in August 1889, for the purpose of spreading missionary information, stimulating interest in missionary work and collecting funds for the support of missionary work in the Diocese of Victoria. The annual subscription was \$2, but the sum so raised barely covered working expenses and the cost of the Association magazine (*The Church Missionary Gleaner*). The statement of accounts by Mr. G. E. Woodward (Hon. Treasurer) showed a balance in hand of \$71.58.

The CHAIRMAN said that the report should be looked upon as favourable inasmuch as they were paying their way. The Association was not originally intended to be a money-collecting concern; and it could not be said against them that "Charity commenced at Home" because the New Territory covered a very large area. The Association at present only employed one man, but there was no reason why they should not employ more. This, however, required funds.

Hymns were then sung; and visiting missionaries lectured on their work in the interior. The 1904 Committee was re-elected.



## UNION CHURCH LITERARY CLUB.

Mr. J. Dyer Ball lectured on the 9th Feb. on "Four thousand years of the Chinese" at the Union Church Literary Club. The hall was well filled. H.E. the Governor was present. The Rev. C. H. Hickling presided.

The lecturer said that he had simply taken 4,000 years as the time to pass under their review in a cursory survey, though the Chinese carried their records back far beyond that. They perhaps laughed at such a remote antiquity, but their scientific men were constantly pushing back the probable age of the human race. Chinese civilization was superior to that of the wild nomadic tribes on their northern frontier and they looked down with disdain on the barbarous races that lived on their western and southern boundaries. The ocean on their eastern shores, for centuries serving as a bulwark to keep off the foe, formed a highway for the more skilled Chinese to travel to the Malayan Peninsula, to Siam, Burma, India and even to the Red Sea. A Babylonian or Akkadian origin had been suggested, and there appeared many points of similarity between the ancient civilization on the banks of the Euphrates and that of China, but they had no certain ground to go upon. In common with all peoples, the Chinese pushed back their history so far that it finally projected on to a plane beyond the present ken of mortal man, when gods reigned supreme and divine beings shaped the course of the world. But, to get at something more substantial than these fancies, about 2,700 years before Christ they found the Chinese in China. They had probably come by some north-western passage, being attracted by the fertile plains of north China. They were, however, not the first to set foot in this land, for they were preceded by aborigines. When the aborigines came was a question. It was probable that the Chinese race formed only one of numerous waves of immigration into the land, but owing to the advanced civilisation the race they called the Chinese were able either to engulf the other races into their body politic, or drive them gradually before them into mountain fastnesses some of them now occupied, or they left them in possession of land from which they could not oust them. Instances of the latter cases were to be found in many provinces of China, and an instance of the former they had in their very midst in the boat population of Hongkong, Macao and Canton, who belonged to an aboriginal race. To this date they differed in some of their customs and in the pronunciation of some of their words. These boat-people were looked down upon by the genuine land-men, who were the descendants of the Chinese settlers, the feeling being carried so far that inter-marriages as a rule were not common between the two races.

## H.E. THE GOVERNOR ENTERTAINS JUVENILES.

At Government House on the 17th February His Excellency was "at home" to the juveniles of the community, who, under the care of such a genial host, enjoyed themselves immensely. The large ball room, transformed into a theatre for the occasion, was tastefully decorated with greenery and bunting. A troupe of juvenile theatricals, tutored by Mrs. John Hastings, produced the two enjoyable farces "Through the looking glass" and "Prince Riquet and the Princess Radiant." The manner in which the young performers acquitted themselves in these pieces redounds to their credit, also to the credit of their instructress, Mrs. Hastings, who must have spent a great deal of time and care to bring them so near to perfection in their parts. His Excellency took care that each of his guests was provided with a gift and that each was supplied with abundance of refreshments. There were over 150 present, and Mrs. May, Mrs. Gershom Stewart, Mrs. Villiers Hutton and Miss Noel were very kind in looking after their wants. Music for the dances was kindly provided by Miss Alice Berkeley.

## THE LATE FATHER TORRES.

Present at the requiem mass at the Roman Catholic Cathedral on February 14 were:—Revs. F. P. Gonsalves, vicar-general of Macao, I. C. de Gouvea, Dean of Macao, I. A. Bartholo, parish priest of Taipa, A. Gomes Parish priest of St. Anthony, the Clergy of the Italian Mission, Fathers P. H. Brun and J. Sallon of the French Procuration, the Brothers and pupils of St. Joseph's College, the Sisters and pupils of the Italian and French Convents, Messrs J. M. E. Machado, A. G. Romano (Portuguese Consul-General), V. Atienza, E. Ros, C. Gonsalves and others.

The Church was draped in black and presented an appearance in keeping with the occasion.

A Spanish journal says: As our readers know, Father Torres died at Manila at St. Domingo Convent, after a long and painful illness and after receiving the Sacraments from his conferees. He expired surrounded by the priests of his own order. He was a native of Santa Maria de Redondo, of the province of Palencia (Spain); born on 26th October, 1846; he entered as a student of the 2nd order of philosophy in the Conciliar seminary of Toledo, he solicited and obtained the permission to join the famous convent—College of Obania, where he was admitted into the order of the Glorious Patriarch Saint Domingo de Guzman, in September, 1866. During the political and social disturbances in Spain, he was sent by his superiors to the Philippine Islands in the year 1872, being then only a student in the 2nd order of theology which he completed in Manila at the university of St. Thomas. He was sent to the Province of Pangasinan where he learned the dialect of that province. In December, 1875 he was recommended for the position of curate at San Isidro of Tubuan. In that country on the 8th June, 1876, he had the misfortune of losing his left arm by the explosion of a rifle which he used in trying to shoot a mad dog which appeared in the City and had caused terror among the citizens. He suffered the operation of amputation with a good deal of patience and fortitude, which are the two principal characteristics of the late Father Torres. In October of the same year he came to Hongkong to take up the position of Vice-Procuration of the Spanish Procuration in Hongkong, where he attended to their missions in Tonkin, China, Formosa and Japan. From Hongkong he was sent back to Manila in 1881, and was made Procurator-General of the province of Sma. Rosario in the Philippines, which post he occupied till 1886, when his superiors again sent him to Hongkong as Procurator General of all the missions. His 18 years of continual labour in Hongkong is an eloquent proof of the noble qualities, whether religious, intellectual, social or financial, which adorned the modest Father Torres. During the 18 years he went on one occasion to Japan by order of his superiors for the benefit of his health. However he profited very little from the excursion and felt the end coming on very rapidly. He felt very bad since August last and returned to Manila last January and there died. He died 11 days after his arrival in Manila.

## A HONGKONG SOLDIER'S DEATH.

Before Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz, sitting as coroner, and a jury, an inquiry was held at the Magistracy on February 17th concerning the death of Frederick Hicks, a private in "D" Co., Royal West Kents, who met his death on the 12th instant as the result of a fall from the verandah of Murray Barracks.

James Cork, private in the second battalion R.W.K., deposed: I was on sentry duty on the 7th inst. at Murray Barracks. Deceased entered by the Western gate between eleven and twelve o'clock with private Taylor. I could not say whether he was sober when he entered. As I was walking up and down on sentry duty the following morning, I heard something upsetting on the verandah, and on looking up saw a figure falling. It caught on the telephone wires and then fell to ground. I shouted to the sergeant of the guard, and when a light was brought recognised the body as that of private Hicks. He appeared at first to be gasping for breath; then he started breathing heavily. The upsetting of the form was the first noise I heard on the verandah.

There was no light there. The ground on which deceased fell is very hard.

Sergeant Ernest Gulliver stated: I saw deceased enter the barracks at 11.55 p.m. He reported himself to me in the usual manner. He was jolly at the time, but quite sober. Private Taylor came in with him. I next saw him lying on the concrete outside the orderly room. This was about 1.45 a.m. The sentry sent for me. Hicks was unconscious when I saw him, and did not recover before he was removed. The men are in the habit of sleeping on the verandah in the hot weather, but there was no reason why Hicks should have been sleeping there on the 7th, as it was rather cold that night. On going to that part of the verandah from which deceased fell, I saw a form lying up against the table. His waistbelt was on the table and his boots and cap were lying on the verandah. When I saw deceased on the concrete there was a stream of blood running from under his head.

Dr. Johnson, Captain R.M.A.C., deposed: Deceased was brought into the Station Hospital, Wellington Barracks, about 2 a.m. on the morning of the 8th in an unconscious condition, and never came out of that state. The cause of death was inter-cerebral hemorrhage.

Private S. Taylor said: I returned to barracks at 11.15 p.m. on the night of the 7th. I was accompanied by Private Hicks. I met him at the west gate and we went to the guardroom together. He was perfectly sober.

Private James Joseph deposed:—I was with deceased on the night of the 7th instant for about three hours. We were at the Soldiers Club. At ten minutes past ten I left him. He was perfectly sober.

After hearing further witnesses, the jury returned a verdict of accidental death.

## HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

### FIRE TACTICS.

This was the subject chosen by Lieut. J. W. Fiennes, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, for his lecture before members of the Volunteer Reserve Association at the City Hall on Feb. 16.

Amongst those present were H.E. the Governor, Sir H. S. Berkeley, Hon. Mr. Gershom Stewart, Rev. C. H. Hickling Sgt. Major Higby and Messrs. W. H. T. Davis, E. A. Hewett, H. H. J. Gompertz, J. H. Michael and the Hon. Capt. Barnes Lawrence.

Sir H. S. Berkeley, in introducing the lecturer, mentioned that the members of the Association now numbered 136.

The LECTURER mentioned that there were many considerations involved in the term of "fire tactics" such as the manoeuvring of troops into positions so that the firing would have the maximum effect on the enemy with the minimum of losses to themselves. By manoeuvring in presence of the enemy there was one end in view—that was the acquisition of positions from which firing could be more accurately directed than that of the enemy's. This end was obtained by varied means, the most important of which were: an intelligent use of ground; mutual support between different units; selection of objective; correct estimation of ranges and careful observation of firing and concentration of fire, and discretion of the firing employed. These were chiefly the duties of the officers, but concerned the non-commissioned officers in a lesser degree. Many people held the opinion that troops took cover entirely to avoid being hurt themselves. This was not the object. All cover was utilised so that the largest number of rifles might be used for a last attack. The object of covering fire was chiefly to demoralise the enemy and spoil his aim on that portion on which he was actually moving forward. Fire used in covering troops should be of great intensity during the time the troops were getting over ground, and this should be lessened as they got on and open fire themselves. The support of one part of a firing line to another is of great value, because the fire is oblique and converging. A covering fire must be kept up by the reserves and supports until the assaulting troops are almost in the enemy's position, otherwise the enemy may sit safely under cover and rise and deliver a crushing fire on



the attacking people the moment the covering fire ceases. Best results from good combination can not be obtained unless those whose duty it is to direct fire recognise the proper target to fire at, and only careful observation of the enemy's movements and constant watchfulness can decide that. Ineffective firing is worse than useless, as it discourages the soldiers delivering the fire and encourages the enemy. The next point is that of concentration. By this means the end is attained by firing in quicker time and with less expenditure of ammunition. If this is effective, the enemy's morale is shaken, which has a very important effect on a war. The lecturer here discoursed on the different modes and rates of firing, also when accuracy rather than intensity was required and *vice versa*. He discoursed at some length on the question of when it was necessary to economise in the use of ammunition, and said it might pay to tell off a certain number of picked shots in a battle to fire on the enemy's leaders; if they could bag a general, so much the better. The speaker wound up his lecture with a few remarks regarding the maxim gun. If this were used in battle, he said it was necessary that it should be concealed. He had left a great deal unsaid with regard to the subject he had chosen, but if his hearers had the kindness to sit until to-morrow morning, he would still be able to continue (applause).

Sir H. S. BERKELEY: Your Excellency, Gentlemen—I know we all accord to the lecturer a very hearty vote of thanks for the most capable and interesting lecture just delivered to us. As he has said, Sir—and no one is more capable than yourself of knowing the truth of what he said—the subject he has dealt with is a very complex and difficult one. He seems to me to have a thorough knowledge of that which he has undertaken to do, and in the lecture he delivered he has shown that he bestowed considerable care on what he laid before us for our instruction. One or two of his remarks were most particularly interesting to me as a member of this association, formed by yourself for the purpose of standing up in case of need to assist those who will in the first instance be brought into the firing line. He has shown us that the firing line must depend altogether upon the assistance which can be given to it by those in support and in reserve. Should the time ever come when our services will be needed, they will be in the reserve, and I feel sure when that time does come, we will be found to be effective supports to those in the firing line. In another direction this body of men can be most usefully employed—I make the suggestion for Your Excellency's professional consideration—that is with respect to the question of Maxim gun rapid firing. It seems to me we are a body out of which a machine section could be formed. They say a field gun does not require any great physical exertion, so we, as veterans, should not have much difficulty in that direction. (laughter). It requires coolness, calmness and judgment, which comes from old age and accuracy of vision, which we will soon be able to prove to the world at large we still possess. After we have had a little practice with the new rifles with which Your Excellency so kindly furnished us, and become proficient shots, as we will become, it would not be safe for a general or any of the enemy's officers to bring themselves within our range. This one point is certainly clear regarding Your Excellency's reserves. I beg to move a hearty vote of thanks to the lecturer, also to His Excellency the Governor for arranging the lecture.

His Excellency's brief acknowledgment concluded the meeting.

#### SALE OF STEAMERS.

The *Ban An* s.s. *An Pho*, of Hongkong (formerly the China and Manila s.s. *Esmeralda*) has been sold to Japan for £16,000. She is a vessel of 966 nett tons, and was built by Messrs. W. Hamilton and Company, of Port Glasgow, in 1891.

The s.s. *Argus*, owned by Messrs. Archibald, Curry and Company, of Melbourne, has been sold to Japanese for £16,500. She is a vessel of 1822 tons nett, built by Messrs. Palmers' Company, of Newcastle, in 1889.

#### PORT ARTHUR REFUGEES AT SHANGHAI.

The stream of refugees from Port Arthur continues, and the passing of them on homeward proceeds but slowly in comparison. The hotels and boarding houses have been full, as we have said, for days, and the question of providing mere roof accommodation for these poor unfortunates is one of great difficulty. There has been unceasing activity at the Russian Consulate and by others interested in Russian affairs in Shanghai, but the arrangements made have been far from meeting the demand for accommodation. We understand that overtures have been made for several large godowns, but without success. Another batch of about 500 refugees was expected and to meet this further inroad, the Russian authorities applied to the Municipal Council to help them out of the situation. The Council at once consented and placed the Riding School of the Light Horse at the disposal of the Russians. Police escorts were also offered to conduct the new comers to their temporary quarters.

The Riding School, it may not be generally known, is a spacious mat-hed at the corner of North Honan and Range Roads. It is hardly an ideal residence in the cold weather, but whilst it affords little protection against the wind it at any rate keeps those inside dry. The refugees were to bring their own bedding and stoves and the Russian authorities have made arrangements for providing them with food. The decision to allow the use of the school was come to so speedily that there was no time to notify members of the Mounted Infantry of what had been done, with the result that several of our gallant troops, who turned up to drill in the afternoon, were considerably surprised to find their headquarters in temporary occupation of an invading army of Russians.

A representative of the *N.-C. Daily News* visited the Riding School and found about seventy Russians in occupation. The Council had provided numbers of the long seats used in the Gardens and on the Bund, and these were placed back to back and boards arranged on top of them. A limited number of mattresses were also provided. The refugees found that the most comfortable way of making their beds was to take two of these seats, place them seat to seat and pile two or three mattresses into the space thus formed. Those who slept on the boards took good care to lie on two or three of the mattresses. A policeman was on guard. In a corner six or seven Russian soldiers were engaged in a game of cards. Fragments of loaves scattered round showed that the sleepers had not retired supperless. The refugees were quite orderly and quiet. Most of them went to sleep just as they were with boots, caps, and coats on. There were no stoves or other heating apparatus. The 500 expected in the afternoon seem to have got lost and the police escort which awaited them was, therefore not required.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

#### A 200-MILE TOW.

The s.s. *Merionethshire*, Captain C. H. Burch, put back here yesterday towing the s.s. *Oscar II* (Captain R. Olsen), of Bergen with her main-shaft broken. The *Merionethshire* left Hongkong for Shanghai on Tuesday, and at six o'clock on Wednesday morning when ten miles south-west of High Lam-mock, the disabled steamer, flying signals of distress, "want immediate assistance," was sighted. Captain Burch proceeded to get a tow rope on board by means of rockets. The sea being so heavy, however, it was found impossible to get close enough to successfully carry out this manoeuvre. A boat, in charge of the third officer was therefore, with great difficulty, launched. After a heavy pull she arrived to leeward of the *Oscar II*. While alongside, the boat on two occasions narrowly escaped being capsized by the steamer sheering on top of it. The connection made the boat was returned, and a hawser connection was made between the vessels. The *Merionethshire* towed the *Oscar II* to port, a distance of 20 miles arriving at noon yesterday. The *Oscar II* had left Hongkong for Shanghai on Monday.

#### THE UNIVERSAL TONGUE.

Not the least interesting incident in connection with the historic surrender of Port Arthur was the fact that the negotiations were conducted throughout in English, a Russian Lieutenant and a midshipman acting as interpreters, and the message dispatched by General Stoessel to the Czar, formally notifying his sovereign of his inability to hold the fortress any longer, was also in the Anglo-Saxon tongue.

In spite of all that slipshod flippancy, and the picturesque variation in our spoken tongue which has crept into use under trans-Atlantic influences, the English tongue still possesses "a veritable power of expression such as perhaps never stood at the command of any other language of man." As Max Muller expresses it, "every country of the globe seems to have brought some of its verbal manufactures to the intellectual market of England," and the same forcefulness which gained for the Saxon tongue a victory over the Norman in the middle of the twelfth century, when English was first fully recognized as the language of our Law Courts, is still asserting itself, and even in diplomatic circles we hear less and less of French as the one and only recognized medium of diplomatic negotiation. It is doubtless due in great measure to the cosmopolitan derivation of half our words that English is one of the easiest languages for Continentals to acquire, but it is the pure Saxon element which gives it force and facilitates a directness and lucidity of expression which no other language affords. There is no ambiguity, for instance, in such expressions as "shall be," "shall not be," "must without fail" etc., no room for any possible ground for misunderstanding, and in no other language can anything more plainly and simply straightforward be found than our "yes" and "no." On occasions like the surrender of Port Arthur the absence of an element of ambiguity, and the inability to create any linguistic back door by which obligations may be later on avoided, is of all things the most essential, and the Japanese no doubt felt it would be more satisfactory, not only to themselves but the world at large, if the terms of surrender were drawn up in what is rapidly becoming the language of the whole civilized world.—*Peking Times*.

#### A SWATOW CRY FOR FIG LEAVES.

In a letter to our Shanghai contemporary, Swatow resident says: I understand that the Customs Authorities constitute the harbour guard of the local government. They seemingly cannot prevent the native boatmen from discarding all clothing directly the hot weather sets in. This does not refer to sampan men and their kin, but those that work for general purposes. They do not even wear a loin cloth. To add to this injury to common decency, not a classical study of lewdly undressed is to be found in the whole bunch. A Praxiteles or a Phidias would swoon if they beheld the anatomies presented to our eyesight. A doctor might be interested and instructed in tracing the coiled veins and muscular tissues, he might even enjoy a professional revel in diagnosing the varieties of skin diseases, but it is the community in general I must think of. Steamers bring many women and children into the harbour, and I have the gentle sex dwelling with me. It causes an intuitive shudder to conceive that this spectacle of nudness is literally paraded about upon the water of the port, and no step taken to stop it, or if any step is taken, it is a very spurious one. Perhaps the women themselves may raise the question of the indignity they are put to, and for the sake of their children; but the wonder is that the missionaries are dormant. Why lose this opportunity of redeeming the natives from an uncouth custom without an ethical law to favour it? Why are they shutting their eyes tightly to a gross evil and allowing it to pass year after year without bestirring themselves to overcome it? It is the severest and most tangible criticism upon their work of salvation that a port that has come under the influence of civilisation and their religions yet retains the mark of prehistoric ages or darkest savagery.



## CHINESE BANKNOTES.

A joint proclamation issued by the Tientsin Prefect and Magistrate.

The public are hereby notified that inst. actions have been received from H. E. Viceroy Yuan to the effect that the chairman and members of the native chamber of commerce in Tientsin have sent the Viceroy a petition in which they say:—"The circulation of dollar notes by native banks gives much convenience to the market. Not long ago when Yi Feng Te bank was in bankruptcy, all who had notes in their possession, went to cash them at the various banks and in consequence the market was badly affected. We had then petitioned the Prefect and magistrate for immediate payment of the notes issued by the said bank, based on the rule adopted for settling official and foreign funds when a bank is closed. In reply to our request, a notification has been issued ordering that the notes on the market must all be cashed by the said bank irrespective of their amount, so that the holder shall not lose. It has also been ordered by the Police that a fund must be raised at once and the notes paid first. We appreciate these orders very highly."

"We find that paper money has significant consequence on trade and great attention is paid to it in Japan and by Western nations. Sometimes severe punishment is inflicted in connection with paper money. Greater precaution is taken, more importance is attached to it. At present, in Japan, money used in the market from one yen upwards, except small sums in cents, is all in notes, which are acceptable among all classes. Much pains have been taken by the officials and merchants for the initiation of paper money. Now, our police authorities have been convinced of the advantage of dollar notes and expressed a comprehensive view in Yi Feng Te's case which should serve as a warning to other banks and give benefit to both the issuer and holder of the notes. This is the best policy for the protection of paper money. The people have been aware that the notes are more valuable than official and foreign funds, and the circulation during the two months has been good, which is greatly due to the protection given by the authorities."

"As we are in contact with the merchants, we beg to request H. E. the Viceroy to issue a proclamation to the effect that in future, should any bank be in bankruptcy, the notes be paid off previous to the payment made for official and foreign funds, or the property of the bank be confiscated for settlement of the notes in order to win faith and protect trade."

In compliance with the request, H. E. the Viceroy gives order to the Tientsin Prefect and Magistrate to jointly issue a proclamation to this effect. We, the Prefect and Magistrate, on receipt of the instructions, hereby notify the bankers that the circulation of dollar notes is for the benefit of the market and that in future if any bank be in bankruptcy, the notes must be settled first, taking the above mentioned case as a precedent. Let this be observed.—*Tientsin Official Gazette.*

## A CHINESE REVENGE.

At Chienchuang, near Linchingchou, some time ago, occurred a suicide of a surprising character. A man, whose family had once been well-to-do, went into the store of his adversary with whom he had had a lawsuit and lost, and demanded a large sum of money, threatening to take his own life on the spot if the money was not forthcoming. The manager objected, refused we had better say, and then the man promptly killed himself. The magistrate sent down a commissioner, who, of course, would not believe the man had committed suicide until a thousand taels had been paid him. Then he gave verdict that the firm were to hand over a thousand strings of cash for burial expenses, and forty mow of land as relief money to the distressed family. The man was horribly poor, which suggests that we have here a good application of the Chinese proverb which freely translated means: "Ally worthless as a straw; dead it is as precious as jade."

## IMPORTATION OF ARMS AT SWATOW.

Now that clan-fighting has become less general the mandarins have relaxed their vigilance, with the result that arms of all sorts are being freely imported into every part of the district. Formerly a gun had to be taken to pieces, or wrapped up with care, in order to escape observation. Now it is not unusual to see men carry guns openly from place to place, or especially from the port to villages inland. To say that the fights are less frequent is not to say that they have altogether disappeared. On the contrary, says the Swatow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, one fight of considerable dimensions has been in progress for a month and has claimed several tens of lives, besides causing the destruction by fire of a large quarter in two villages. It is the after-math of a larger fight two years ago, in which the unsatisfactory settlement by the mandarin left seeds of hatred that are now springing up. If strict measures are not immediately taken for its suppression the trouble will extend over a wide area, as many other villages are engaged to take part on one side or the other in case of need.

## NAIVE FINANCE.

A Chinese Imperial Decree of January 23rd is thus translated by the *Peking Times*:—

We have received a memorial from Yuan Shi-kai proposing to raise a public loan in Chihli. All foreign Powers when their countries need money for important domestic works raise loans and the public willingly subscribe. But in China the people hesitate because the officials do not keep faith, and therefore the public do not feel confidence. The Viceroy now memorializes that the loan bonds which he proposes to issue would be faithfully honoured and this is very important. He proposes to raise a sufficient sum to pay interest, and issue these bonds in evidence, and let these bonds be recognized in the payment of duties and other taxes, and the regulations appear satisfactory. It is therefore granted that the idea be given trial. The Viceroy of Chihli and the Salt Commissioner are held responsible, and the officials in office and their successors must be very careful in the management of this. The regulations now passed must be regarded as law and no alteration can be made. If they neglect any of the undertakings or are guilty of any such faults as have occurred in the past or there is any corruptness, they will be severely punished and no mercy will be shown.

## "CONSCIENCE" CHU.

This interesting little sidelight on things Chinese was sent to our Shanghai contemporary by its Linchingchou correspondent:—

It is so often that nothing but evil is said of the district magistrates, that it is a relief to speak of one who has already won for himself a good reputation. This is the new man in Tungohsien, Mr. Chu. He is said to have changed everything in his office, clearing off the docket within a few days, so that the poor constables are growing thin from lack of culprits on whom to feed. The people have given him the nickname of "Conscience" which is yet more astonishing, the more common appellations being "Old Thousand" (blows) "Close-fisted," and the like. Recently Mr. Chu had a petition presented to him by a man claiming to be a Protestant. Mr. Chu called his case, and proceeded to examine him as to his knowledge of Christianity, names of mission, missionary, helper, etc. He soon proved the man false, ordered him to be given a thousand blows for his attempt to humbug, and after a few days, had him put in a wooden collar, which he is wearing during the present month, for the benefit of like gentry.

## S.S. "SCOTSMAN" CAPTURED.

The s.s. *Scotsman*, which cleared from Hongkong for Vladivostok on the 2nd instant, with a cargo of rice from Saigon, has been captured by the Japanese.

## A CHINESE CRITIC OF FOREIGN MUSIC.

The following criticism is of interest because of the Chinese writer's amusing ideas of programmes and menu cards; and because of his very sensible objection to noisy applause.

The *Ling Nam Yat Pao* in Canton writes:—On the 11th inst. at 9-15 p.m. the celebrated German Piano-virtuoso Friedenthal San gave a concert at the house of the Deputy Commissioner General Mr. Roohar, in which all the rooms were filled with the luxury of the Occident. It was a marvellous clear night; the moon sparkled on the sky like a looking-glass. Absolute quietude reigned in nature, and the spectators also listened with silence when the charming music began. Now it sounded like the murmuring of water flowing over stone; now like the whispering of the cryptomerias softly moved by the zephyr; and his loud playing resembled the thunder of the waves in the ocean. Now the player was sitting at his instrument as quiet as the tops of the mountains, now he developed a liveliness and vigour of playing like the player in Yung-Len. His soft and sweet playing formed a heavy contrast to the illfamed music at the borders of the river Fu. Friedenthal San possesses the talent of Chungi, who, as is known, was able to play everything. He plays like Shih Kuang who, on his queer instrument, knew how to call forth the songs of the nightingale. At the concert all the diplomats, consuls, deputies, officials and the merchants of Shamsen with their families were present, so that the vast halls were completely filled. All held in their hands a paper, in which they read what Friedenthal San was going to play, just as in the European hotels the guests read a paper to see what they are going to eat. After every piece they beat loudly with their hands, producing a loud noise, and so they gave the celebrated artist to understand what pleasure they enjoyed with his music; but I thought this noise was rather a bitter contrast to the beautiful music which preceded it. I, the humble writer of these lines and editor of the *Ling Nam Yat Pao* was also invited by the Consul of virtuous Germany, and stayed in the saloons until the end of the concert. Just as Chenlien understood how to lead the people in moral ways through his music, so was I also prevented from doing anything wrong that night.

## WEDDING IN PEKING.

The British Legation in Peking were an unwontedly festive aspect in celebration of the wedding of Mr. J. W. Richardson and Miss Jessie Ottewill, sister of Mr. H. A. Ottewill, Vice Consul of the British Legation. The ceremony, which was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Norris, was of a simple character, not choral. The bride, who was becomingly dressed in white silk was given away by His Excellency, Sir Ernest Satow, while the bridegroom had for his best man Mr. Rospigliosi of the Customs Service. The bridesmaids were the Misses Carnegie and Piry and were assisted in their duties by the Misses Lowry, who distributed wedding favours to the guests. After the ceremony the company assembled in the Legation and after a brief interval an adjournment was made into the Legation dining room where the healths of the bride and bridegroom were drunk. This toast was proposed by Sir Robert Hart in a very happy speech in which he referred in graceful terms to the sterling good qualities of the bridegroom as exemplified during a long service in the Customs and particularly during the trying time of the troubles of 1900. The bridegroom having returned thanks in a few words, the bride retired to change to travelling costume. The honeymoon will be spent at Sir Ernest Satow's country villa, which he has kindly placed at the disposal of the happy couple.

One of the most interesting features of the wedding was the amazing number of people who attended. It came as a surprise to everybody that Peking could produce so many Europeans and doubtless both bride and bridegroom will remember with pleasure this emphatic evidence of goodwill of as cosmopolitan a gathering as one could well imagine.—*Peking Times.*



## "THE DIRECTORY AND CHRONICLE FOR 1905."

The 1905 edition of the "Directory and Chronicle," annually published at the office of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, constitutes the forty-third issue of the volume which has grown from a little book of less than 250 pages to a portly tome of over 1750 pages. The book is so familiar to business men in every port and city in Asia in which European and American commercial houses are established—from Netherlands India to Vladivostok,—that a detailed description of its general features is unnecessary, except perhaps for new arrivals, who will find a catalogue of its contents in the advertisement appearing in another column.

It may be useful, however, to indicate some of the additions which have been made to the "Chronicle" section of the book which comprises the texts of all the most important treaties concluded with the countries of Eastern Asia during the past half century, Customs Tariffs, Trade Regulations etc. Included in the present volume are the new Commercial Treaties made by China with Great Britain, Japan, the United States and Portugal; also the Emigration Convention between England and China; the treaty concluded last year between France and Siam; and the British Treaty with Tibet. Other useful additions are the Chinese Trade Marks Regulations, and also those relating to Mining and Railway concessions. Local shipping men will note an abstract of the Hongkong Pilots' Ordinance and the scale of fees pilots are entitled to charge. These constitute the principal additions to the book.

As regards the Directory section there is little to be said apart from the fact that the descriptions of the colonies, ports and settlements, including the trade statistics of each, have been carefully revised. So many changes occur each year in the foreign communities of the East that the work of revising the lists of names is a very onerous task indeed, and amply demonstrates the necessity for the annual publication of the Directory. Hongkong is the only new port added this year, and the list of residents is prefaced by a very interesting description of the new trade centre. No list of residents at Port Arthur is given for the sufficient reason that none was obtainable, owing to the siege of the fortress by the Japanese army. The uncertainty as to the fate of Vladivostok is doubtless responsible for an imperfect revision of the list of residents in that city. A Diary of the War included in the book, brings events down to the end of the year 1904.

It is interesting to note that the alphabetical list at the end of the book contains upwards of 16,000 names, and the separate alphabetical list of Protestant missionaries in China, Japan and Corea contains upwards of 3,000 names. The excellent maps which are revised and corrected every year, are a valuable feature of the large edition, and for the rest it may be said that everything is done by the publishers to maintain the position which this work of reference has earned as the principal and acknowledged authority for commercial and professional men in China, Japan, Corea, Straits Settlements, Indo-China, the Philippines, Netherlands India and elsewhere in Asia.

## FIRES.

A report was forwarded to the Central Police Station on Feb. 11, of a fire which broke out at the store of Messrs Cheong Sang of No. 145 Aberdeen. A large part of the stock was composed of crackers, and as the fire caught on to these, noisy explosions followed. The premises were practically gutted before the fire was extinguished by the Police, who were assisted in their work by the European and Chinese staffs of the Aberdeen Dock. The damage is estimated at \$560. A gallant rescue was effected by Mr. J. Wilson, a foreman in the Dockyard, who, while the fire was burning fiercely, rushed into the building which was collapsing at the time, and pulled out a Chinese woman who was nearly suffocated.

On the 13th February the Fire Brigade answered an alarm from No. 117, Wellington Street; but it turned out to be only a chimney on fire.

Fire broke out on the second (top) floor of No. 89, Queen's Road West, a medicine shop, at about 10.3 p.m. Mr. Lenaghan, employed at the Western Hotel, an ex-policeman and ex-Fire Brigade man, ran out a "despatch box" from the Ko hing Tea-re. He was assisted by two other civilians, Messrs. G. H. Dell and Anderson, and they kept the fire under till the Brigade, under the Chief Inspector of Police, arrived. The fire, consequently, was put out in a very short time. The top floor, which was empty, was burnt, and a part of the roof. The goods in the shops below were damaged by water. The premises are insured for \$1,500.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

The average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve at Hongkong during January are as follows:—

| BANK             | AVERAGE      | RESERVE      |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Chartered Bank   | \$3,847,626  | \$2,400,000  |
| H.K. and S. Bank | \$16,063,298 | \$10,000,000 |
| National Bank    | \$322,119    | \$150,000    |

Total . . . \$20,233,043 \$ 2,550,000

Frederick Hicks, a soldier in the Royal West Kent regiment, met with an accident on the 7th instant which has since resulted in his death. A party, of which deceased was a member, had been out on the evening in question, and reported themselves at Murray Barracks again before midnight. Hicks slept that night on the verandah of the second floor of the barracks. In the early hours of the following morning he got up, and while standing on a stool about two feet high, close to the verandah rail, which is about four feet high, he toppled over. He was admitted to the Military Hospital suffering from injury to the skull, and hæmorrhage, and succumbed on the 12th inst.

Katsumata, a Japanese, was charged before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Police Court on Feb. 15 with bringing arms into the colony without a permit. Detective Wilken stated that he found a case, containing a varied assortment of arms concealed under a bundle of clothing in the defendant's cabin on the *Empress of Japan*. Defendant pleaded guilty, but stated that he was on his way to Hoihow. He had been in the arms business for five years, which the Japanese Consul could certify. His Worship said defendant appeared to have had the arms concealed. He would inflict a fine of \$1 and order that they be forfeited. Defendant asked if he could not get them back, and His Worship referred him to the Captain Superintendent of Police, who might possibly return them.

Chen Ching, a ricksha coolie, was placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland at the Police Court on Feb. 17, charged with obstructing the road near Pedder Street wharf. Chan was of a humorous disposition, and mistook his position, probably thinking he was on the stage. He was acting the contortionist with his face, greatly to the amusement of a number of natives who were watching the morning proceedings. They could not suppress their mirth with the result that His Worship took notice. Chan was found to be the cause, and in addition to the \$2 fine for obstruction, he was sentenced to fourteen days hard labour, and in lieu of one day six hours stocks, for contempt of Court.

The *Tientsin Times* recently said: Our engineering readers will no doubt be interested to know that the building of the third (No. 102) of this type of Mogul locomotive has just been completed at the Tientsin Workshops of the Imperial Railways of North China. In the construction of this particular class of locomotive an unique arrangement of fixing the cylinders on to the main frames, an idea of Mr. Kinder's, by means of four large bolts has been adopted and substituted in place of thirty smaller bolts which are invariably used in British locomotives. This arrangement has the advantage over the other in the fact that the larger bolts give easier facilities for the removal of the cylinders for re-boring, or in the case of breakages. The other two locomotives, both of which have this bolting arrangement, have been running continuously on the line for one and three years respectively. They have given very satisfactory results comparing favourably with the British and American locomotives imported into China.

The Rev. G. H. Davis, who for the past nine years has been chaplain of All Saints' Church, Kobe, and was formerly for three years in Hongkong, passed through Hongkong on Feb. 14 on his way to Australia and New Zealand, being a passenger by the steamer *Empire*. Mr. and Mrs. Davis renewed acquaintance with many friends in the Colony.

Mr. H. M. Bevis, the popular manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank at Shanghai, has been dangerously ill. He has been in Hongkong some weeks, with his wife and step-daughter. His complaint is malignant smallpox, and on Feb. 15 his condition was such that he was not expected to recover. He was formerly in Yokohama, and went to Shanghai about the year 1898. He is very popular in the northern port, and has a great many sympathising friends here. Last accounts are that he is recovering.

A truckman was charged at the Police Court on Feb. 13 with negligence while in charge of a loaded truck, whereby a ricksha was broken up and its occupant severely injured. The truckman was pulling his load along the tram line near No. 2 Police Station. A ricksha, with an old Chinese woman in it, was following on behind, while close upon them, with its bell ringing violently, was an oncoming tram. When the car was close upon them, the truckman swerved in the wrong direction and pinned the ricksha between his truck and the car. The ricksha was smashed to pieces, and the woman thrown out, sustaining some nasty bruises on her right cheek and forehead. The case was remanded.

Sergeant Appleton of the Water Police charged two fishermen, before Mr. J. H. Kemp at the Police Court on Feb. 13, with assault. Defendants were crew of deep sea fishing junk No. 5,968, the master (or mistress) of which is a woman. There was also on board a creditor of the owner of the junk, who from all accounts, was resident on board as a "bailiff" until such time as his debt was paid. The defendants laboured under the impression that he was a wealthy man, and as the junk was sailing through the Lyceum-on Pass, armed with a chopper and a bar of wood they approached him and demanded money. He informed the defendants that he had no money, whereupon they assailed him, the man with the chopper seriously damaging his right shoulder and left arm. The case was remanded until the 21st inst.

The *Manila Cablenews* says:—An ex-non-commissioned officer of the army recently discharged here said that he was approached with a proposal to enlist as a second lieutenant in the Chinese Imperial Reform Army the other day, but that he had concluded to remain where he was and re-enlist. The mainland papers have been teeming with reports of similar offers made there through General English of the Chinese army and some ex U.S. army officers, notably Colonel Dennis and General Falkenberg. It is said that nearly 7,000 Americans with active war experience have been already engaged and that in April of this year they will begin to leave for China. The creation of an army of 350,000 Chinese under the supervision of experienced Americans is contemplated, and the preliminary steps of the vast undertaking are already accomplished. The lowest rank of an American will be second lieutenant, and only non-commissioned officers with a good record are desired. It is also claimed that the quota is nearly filled and that the number offering themselves has been so great that a large choice has enabled the officers to pick out a splendid body of men.

Our Shanghai contemporary says: News was received here on February 3rd of the death on February 2nd at Berlin of Mr. H. Snethlage, a very well-known resident of Shanghai, who went home with his wife not long since suffering, it is believed, from cancer. Mr. Snethlage's first appearance in Shanghai was as clerk in the Japanese Post-office, and he began business as a land-agent when the Japanese postal authorities were able to dispense with the services of European assistants. The Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd., was his conception, and to the success of that company he owed his fortune, which he increased by the lumber business which he subsequently started. His widow, for whom much sympathy is felt, is the only child of Mr. W. S. Percival, of the Supreme Court staff here, and a niece of the Assistant Judge, Mr. R. A. Mowat, subsequently Judge in Japan. Mr. Snethlage was in his sixtieth year.



## COMMERCIAL.

## SILK.

Messrs. A.R. Burkill & Sons's Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, 3rd February, 1905, states:—The home markets are quiet, Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 11,10½ and in Lyons at Fcs. 33.75. Raw Silk.—A few small transactions in Taslees are recorded on the basis of Tls. 5.30 for Gold Kiling. Yellow Silk.—Very little doing. Hand Filatures.—Nothing doing. Steam Filature.—We have not heard of a single transaction. Waste Silk.—Nothing doing.

## SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 17th Feb.—Some demands having come forward, the upward tendency continues.

|                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White..... | \$8.85 to \$8.90 pels. |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 8.00 to 8.05 "         |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 6.80 to 6.85 "         |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 6.50 to 6.55 "         |
| Swatow, No. 1, White.....    | 8.70 to 8.80 "         |
| Do. " 2, White.....          | 7.85 to 7.90 "         |
| Do. " 1, Brown.....          | 6.40 to 6.45 "         |
| Do. " 2, Brown.....          | 6.25 to 6.30 "         |
| Foochow Sugar Candy.....     | 13.15 to 13.25 "       |
| Shekloong ".....             | 12.65 to 12.80 "       |

## RICE.

HONGKONG, 17th Feb.—There is no market and the prices are declining.

|                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary.....                | \$2.10 to \$2.15 |
| " Round, good quality.....           | 3.70 to 3.75     |
| " Long.....                          | 3.35 to 3.95     |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2..... | 2.55 to 2.60     |
| " Garden, " No. 1.....               | 2.65 to 2.75     |
| " White.....                         | 3.95 to 4.00     |
| " Fine Cargo.....                    | 4.15 to 4.25     |

## OPIUM.

27th January.

Quotations are:— Allow'ce net. to 1 catty.

|                           |                             |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Malwa New.....            | \$1150 to \$1170 per picul. |
| Malwa Old.....            | \$1200 to \$1230 do.        |
| Malwa Older.....          | \$1280 to \$1310 do.        |
| Malwa V. Old.....         | \$1340 to \$1370 do.        |
| Persian fine quality..... | \$880 to — do.              |
| Persian extra fine.....   | \$910 to — do.              |
| Patna New.....            | \$1170 to — per chest.      |
| Patna Old.....            | \$ — to — do.               |
| Benares New.....          | \$1110 to — do.             |
| Benares Old.....          | \$ — to — do.               |

## PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai 9th February, states:—The native holidays were concluded yesterday, when business was resumed with much more promptitude than usual. The past year was decidedly satisfactory to the majority, and it is intimated that fifty-nine native banks will be available to the trade, against the fifty-three the year just closed, whose profits are said to have reached nearly a million and a half taels. This was exceeded by the Piece Goods dealers, however, who are credited with having made one-third more, though their outstanding commitments must be much heavier. The year has certainly opened propitiously, and the news that greeted those interested that Cotton was strong and advancing has clinched the confidence with which they were looking forward to the future trade. As one importer puts it, if our lives had been perfect nothing better could have happened to us! The future of this market is certainly assured now, as there will be no opportunity of obtaining cheaper supplies until the greater part of the high priced goods are cleared off. The result has evidently been brought about by artificial means, unfortunately, as the following facts, gathered from recently received advices concerning the U. S. Cotton Crop show.—The very serious fluctuations to which Cotton has been subjected during the past few years, and consequent confusion of trade the world over, has at length demanded the serious consideration of those most closely connected with its culture and manufacture. Many suggestions have been made and schemes propounded, but it will be difficult to arrive at a conclusion acceptable to all when manufacturers, or at all events those outside the United States and who consume

about two-thirds of the production, want to see a low range of prices for the raw staple, and growers want just the opposite. According to latest written advices from the States the drastic measure of de-roying by fire a large proportion of the crop was actually started in one place, and the example set was strenuously advocated by interested parties, but it seems doubtful if it was followed to any extent. An important meeting of all interested in the spinning industry was convened for the 5th January at Charlotte, N.C. at which there were "vital matters to be considered and new safeguards planned." It is to be hoped something tangible will be evolved out of this meeting, for, in the words of the American Cotton Manufacturer, "the farmer cannot for a moment afford to leave his co-workers, manufacturers and distributors, out of his deliberations. On the other hand the latter should show a spirit of willing cooperation in every movement which will make their side of the trade less of a gamble and more of a legitimate business nature." On the 6th inst., advices from New York noted Cotton there 7.44 cents for April, so the subsequent advance to 4.10½ in Liverpool for Mid-American was not unexpected. The quotation for Egyptain is now 6½d. The Manchester market is naturally very firm, and higher prices are wanted for distant delivery than most importers here care to entertain, still some few appear to have the temerity to buy for Native account. The export of Plain Cottons for last month was 57 million yards to Hongkong and China, and 1,200 bales Yarn. The market in the States is also very firm, but we understand a considerable quantity has been settled for shipment here about four months hence, chiefly in 3 yards Sheetings, but particulars are carefully guarded. Piece Goods.—As the Foreign Exchange Banks are closed until tomorrow no sterling quotations have been available to guide sellers in their transactions, and for that reason many have obtained from doing business. The supply of free goods in the hands of importers is, however, very limited, and the dealers have generally been able to let the merchants have what was wanted, for urgent orders were in hand, especially for the North, to meet which some fairly large quantities of American Domestic goods have changed ownership. The lighter Manchester goods have not been neglected, thought sales of these have consisted chiefly of goods afloat. The Yuen Fong Auction was held this morning and the prices obtained there give some indication of the market. All the Gray Shirtings show better prices, the 12-lbs. 36 inch being the least strong. White Shirtings might be called steady on the whole, prices showing very little variation one way or the other, as also T-Cloths and Jeans. Both Black Cotton Italians and Turkey Reds went irregularly. Lastings, and some colours of Camlets, went at slightly better prices. In American goods quite an extensive business has gone through amongst the natives, chiefly in Sheetings on the basis of Tls. 5.0-5.10 for 2.85 yard, Tls. 4.65-4.80 for 3 yard, and Tls. 4.25-4.30 for 3.25 yard, and Tls. 4.10 for 3.50 yard. Light Cloths are neglected. Peppercell Drills at Tls. 4.80 and 40 yard at Tls. 5.0 have also found buyers. An extensive forward business has gone through, or is pending, on the basis of 10s. 3½d. to 10s. 4½d. for 3 yard Sheetings, and 11s. 2d. for 2.85 yard Drills.

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 27th January.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

## COTTON YARN—

|                              | per bale             |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...    | \$ 90.00 to \$128.00 |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...   | 140.00 to 160.00     |
| " 22 to 24, ...              | 160.00 to 165.00     |
| " 28 to 32, ...              | 167.50 to 175.00     |
| " 38 to 42, ...              | 180.00 to 190.00     |
| Reported sales 10,000 bales. |                      |

## COTTON PIECE GOODS—

|                                             | per piece    |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. ....                  | 2.20 to 2.25 |
| 7 lbs. ....                                 | 2.30 to 2.40 |
| 8.4 lbs. ....                               | 3.00 to 4.00 |
| 9 to 10 lbs. ....                           | 4.10 to 5.30 |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....           | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| 58 to 60 " ....                             | 3.10 to 3.60 |
| 64 to 66 " ....                             | 3.80 to 5.40 |
| Fine.....                                   | 6.10 to 8.00 |
| Book-folds.....                             | 5.30 to 8.10 |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...                 | 0.80 to 1.00 |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. ....        | 2.20 to 2.30 |
| 7lbs. (32 " ) ..                            | 2.70 to 3.00 |
| 6lbs. (32 " ) ..                            | 2.25 to 2.70 |
| 7lbs. (32 " ) ..                            | 2.90 to 3.20 |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ..                   | 3.25 to 30.8 |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs. } | 5.10 to 8.00 |

## FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs. } 1.75 to 4.00

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Brocades—Dyed .....        | 0.13 to 0.14 per yard |
| Da masks.....              | — " "                 |
| Chintzes—Assorted .....    | 0.08½ to 0.20         |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. .... | 0.23 to 0.50          |
| Velveteens—18 in. ....     | 0.23 to 0.27          |

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.56 to 1.25 per dozen

|                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Woolens—                      | per yard     |
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops  | 0.70 to 2.10 |
| Ge man .....                  | 0.60 to 0.85 |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths | 1.25 to 2.50 |

Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs. 7.80 to 9.25 per piece

Assorted ..... 7.95 to 9.40

Camlets—Assorted.....13.00 to 32.00 per piece

Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches } 12.50 to 20.00

Assorted ..... } 10.00 to —

Blankets—5 to 12 lbs. .... 0.65 to .85 per lb.

Metals—

Iron—Nail Rod ..... 4.00 to — per picul

Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 3.95 to —

Swedish Bar ..... 4.00 to —

Small Round Rod ..... 4.30 to —

Hoop ½ to 1½ in. .... 6.20 to —

Wire, 16/25 oz. .... 9.50 to —

Wire Rope, Old ..... 3.00 to —

Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop 8.25 to —

Australian ..... 8.55 to —

Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

Vivian's 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

Elliot's 14/20 oz. 40.00 to —

Composition Nails.....61.00 to —

Japan Copper, Slabs.....38.50 to —

Tin.....80.00 to —

Tin-Plates ..... 7.70 to — per box

Steel ½ to ¾ ..... 6.00 to — per cwt. cases

Quicksilver ..... 128.00 to — per picul

Window Glass ..... 5.25 to — per box

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, February 1st, 1905.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

|                                               | Per picul. |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Cowhides, Best Selected .....                 | Tls. 85.00 |
| Do. Seconds .....                             | 81.00      |
| Buffalo hides, Best Selected .....            | 18.50      |
| Goatskins, Untanned, chiefly white color ..   | 56.00      |
| Buffalo Horns, average 3-lbs. each .....      | 9.00       |
| White China Grass, Wuchang and/or Poochi..... | 11.75      |
| White China Grass, Sinshan and/or Chayu ..... | —          |
| Green China Grass, Szechuen .....             | 10.50      |
| Jute .....                                    | —          |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Kunchow.....          | 9.80       |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Pingchow .....        | —          |
| and/or Macheng .....                          | 9.60       |
| White Vegetable Tallow, Mongyu .....          | 8.25       |
| Green Vegetable Tallow, Kiyu.....             | 11.00      |
| Animal Tallow .....                           | 10.00      |
| Gallnuts, Usual shape.....                    | 17.00      |
| Do. Plum do. ....                             | 18.00      |
| Tobacco, Tingchow..... (nominal) ..           | —          |
| Do. Woukong .....                             | ( " )      |
| Black Bristles .....                          | (nom.)     |
| Feathers, Grey and/or White Duck ...          | 21.00      |
| " " " Wild Duck .....                         | 25.00      |
| Turmeric .....                                | 8.00       |
| Sesamum Seed .....                            | 4.00       |
| Sesamum Seed Oil .....                        | 7.90       |
| Vegetable Tallow Seed-Oil .....               | 7.90       |
| Wood Oil .....                                | 7.80       |
| Tea Oil .....                                 | 9.00       |

Per steamer Priam, for Amsterdam, London and Antwerp, sailed on 2nd February. For Alexandria:—38 packages crackers. For Constantinople:—100 rolls matting. For Havre or Hamburg:—100 bales galangal. For Amsterdam:—18 rolls matting, 58 casks ginger. For Amsterdam or Rotterdam:—240 rolls matting, 4 packages sundries. For London: 340 rolls mats, 47 cases chinaware, &c., 781 bales canes, 20 cases vermilion, 36 packages effects and sundries, 200 casks soy, 230 ginger. For London or Manchester:—25 bales waste silk. For London or Glasgow:—150 cases preserves. For London or Hamburg:—100 bales feathers. For London, Liverpool or Glasgow:—100 casks soy. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Copenhagen:—20 bales canes. For Hamburg:—190 bales canes, 181 bales feathers. For Antwerp:—250 bales feathers.



Per P. & O. steamer *Simla*, sailed on 11th Feb. For London:—3 cases cigars, 11 cases manila hats, 2 packages old documents, 8 cases books, 1 case silk, 6 packages private effects. For Lyons:—15 bales raw silk. For Gibraltar:—1 box silk goods.

Per P. & O. steamer *Java*, sailed on 15th Feb. For Antwerp:—38 bales leaf tobacco, 26 packages canes, 4 cases wax. For London:—8 packages camphor oil, 14 cases private effects, 12 cases curios, 7 packages chinaware, 13 cases wine, 1 case embroidery, 32 cases blackwood ware, 4 packages sundries, 100 cases preserves, 2 cases cigars. For Marseilles:—109 bales waste silk. For Gibraltar:—1 case silk piece goods.

#### AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

FEBRUARY 16TH, 1905. List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 24th December to 30th December 4 p.m., 1904:—

#### IMPORTS.

| Goods                    | QUANTITY    |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Cotton Raw, Indian       | pls. —      |
| " Native                 | " 248       |
| " Yarn                   | " 1,452     |
| Shirtings, Grey          | pcs. 424    |
| T-Cloths                 | " 1,239     |
| Shirtings, White         | " 876       |
| T. Red Shirtings         | " 282       |
| Drills                   | " —         |
| Shirtings Dyed, Brocades | " 54        |
| " Dyed                   | " 56        |
| Damasks                  | " —         |
| Camlets                  | " 54        |
| Lasting                  | " 13        |
| Spanish Stripes          | yds. 511    |
| Lustres, Figured         | " —         |
| Lead, in pigs            | pls. 100    |
| Tin, in slabs            | " 31        |
| Iron, Nail rod           | " —         |
| Quicksilver              | " 1         |
| Iron, Old                | " —         |
| Ironwire                 | " —         |
| Rice                     | " 5,810     |
| Opium, Patna             | " —         |
| " Benares                | " 89        |
| " Persia                 | " 26        |
| " Malwa                  | " —         |
| " Szechuan               | " 126       |
| " Yunnan                 | " 63        |
| " Kiangsu                | " 13        |
| Sesamum Seed             | " 2,320     |
| Sapanwood                | " —         |
| Sandalwood               | " 79        |
| Rattans                  | " 12        |
| Wheat                    | " 3,251     |
| Flour                    | " 3,260     |
| Beancake                 | " 3,226     |
| Beans and Peas           | " 32,960    |
| Bicho de Mar             | " 170       |
| Mats Tea                 | lbs. —      |
| Oil, Kerosine American   | gals. —     |
| " " Borneo in bulk       | " —         |
| " " Russian              | " 1,000     |
| " " Sumatra              | " —         |
| " " Bulk                 | " 108,215   |
| Coal                     | tons. 1,871 |
| Tobacco Leaf             | pls. 560    |
| Vermicelli               | pls. 153    |

#### EXPORTS.

| Goods                 | QUANTITY   |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Sugar, White          | pls. 25    |
| " Brown               | " 524      |
| " Candy               | " 280      |
| Hemp Bags             | pcs. 4,700 |
| " Sacking             | " 700      |
| Paper I Quality       | pls. 818   |
| " II                  | " 372      |
| Tobacco, Prepared     | " 536      |
| Kittysols (umbrellas) | pcs. 6,360 |

#### EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 20th February.

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| ON LONDON.—                        |          |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 1/11     |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 1/11 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight      | 1/11 1/2 |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight     | 1/11 1/2 |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight        | 1/11 1/2 |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight | 1/11 1/2 |
| ON PARIS.—                         |          |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 242      |
| Credits 4 months' sight            | 245 1/2  |
| ON GERMANY.—                       |          |
| On demand                          | 196 1/2  |
| ON NEW YORK.—                      |          |
| Bank Bills, on demand              | 46 1/2   |
| Credits, 60 days' sight            | 47 1/2   |
| ON BOMBAY.—                        |          |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 142 1/2  |
| Bank, on demand                    | 143      |
| ON CALCUTTA.—                      |          |
| Telegraphic Transfer               | 142 1/2  |
| Bank, on demand                    | 143      |
| ON SHANGHAI.—                      |          |
| Bank, at sight                     | 72 1/2   |
| Private, 30 days' sight            | 73 1/2   |

|                                |                |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| ON YOKOHAMA.—                  |                |
| On demand                      | 94 1/2         |
| ON MANILA.—                    |                |
| On demand                      | 93 1/2         |
| ON SINGAPORE.—                 |                |
| On demand                      | 4 1/2 p.c. pm. |
| ON BATAVIA.—                   |                |
| On demand                      | 115 1/2        |
| ON HAIPHONG.—                  |                |
| On demand                      | 1 p.c. pm.     |
| ON SAIGON.—                    |                |
| On demand                      | 1 p.c. pm.     |
| ON BANGKOK.—                   |                |
| On demand                      | 6 1/2          |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate | \$10 35        |
| GOLD LEAF, 10 fine, per tael   | \$55 00        |
| GAR SILVER, per oz.            | 28 1/2         |

#### SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 17th February, 1905.—Business generally still continues very dull, but on the whole rates are fairly well maintained, and in some instances close with a firmer tendency.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have improved to \$725 with sales and further buyers. London has advanced to £77. 10s. 0d. Nationals have declined to \$36.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue on offer at \$700 with small buyers at \$697 1/2. China Traders are firmer with sales at \$59. Cantons have advanced to \$267 1/2 buyers. North China and Yangtszes are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have sold at \$40, \$34 1/2 and \$34 1/2, and close in further request at the latter rate. Chinas have sold and are in demand at \$93.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been booked at \$26 and \$26 1/2 cum dividend, and are now enquired for \$26 ex dividend of \$1 per share for the second half of 1904 paid on the 15th instant. Indo-Chinas after sales at \$125 and \$125 1/2 are in request at \$126. Shanghai quotes Tls. 91 buyers, and London £12 buyers. Douglasses continue in request at \$33 1/2, but at \$34 shares are procurable. Shell Transports have been booked at 22/-. There is no change in China and Manilas or Douglasses which are obtainable at quotations.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are quiet at \$22 1/2 with probable buyers. Luzons are still in request at \$22 1/2.

MINING.—Raubas have sold, and more shares are wanted at \$3 1/2.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have sold and are still in request at \$210. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves are steady at \$103 1/2 (old) and \$101 (new). Farnham, Byds are in local request at Tls. 15. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharves have advanced to Tls. 14 and Tls. 13 1/2 for the old and new issues respectively.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong lands have declined to \$131 sellers. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged. Hongkong Hotels are wanted at \$141. Humphreys' Estates have been booked at \$12. and Shanghai Lands at Tls. 115 ex the final dividend of Tls. 5 per share for 1904 paid in Shanghai yesterday.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have improved to \$14 at which rate sales have been effected. The Northern stocks are unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have been booked at \$8 1/2 and more shares are procurable. Dairy Farms have sold and are wanted at \$12. Green Island Cements have improved to \$29 buyers. Ices are steady at \$24 1/2 ex the final dividend of \$13 per share for 1904 paid on the 14th instant. Sam Water Boats have declined to \$18 sellers. New Steam Laundries have advanced to \$4 1/2 buyers, the old issue remains at \$7 buyers.

MEMOS.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation ordinary half yearly meeting tomorrow the 18th instant. Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, ordinary half yearly meeting on the 20th instant. China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, ordinary yearly meeting on the 9th March, transfer books close on the 24th instant to the 9th March inclusive. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co. Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 6th March, transfer books close on the 20th instant to the 6th March inclusive. Green Island Cement Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 25th instant, transfer books close on the 24th instant until the 8th March inclusive.

Closing quotations are as follows:

| COMPANY.                 | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.              |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Banks—                   |          |                          |
| Hongkong & S'hai...      | \$125    | \$725, buyers            |
| Natl. Bank of China      |          | £77. 10.                 |
| A. Shares                | 28       | \$36, sales              |
| B. Shares                | 28       | \$36, sales              |
| Foun. Shares...          | 21       | \$10                     |
| Insurance—               |          |                          |
| Union                    | \$100    | \$697 1/2, buyers        |
| China Traders            | 25       | \$59, sales              |
| North China              | 25       | Tls. 95, sellers         |
| Yangtze                  | 60       | \$160                    |
| Canton                   | 50       | \$267 1/2, buyers        |
| Hongkong Fire            | 50       | \$345, buyers            |
| China Fire               | 20       | \$93, sales & buy.       |
| Steamship Coys.—         |          |                          |
| H., Canton and M...      | \$15     | \$26, ex div., & buy.    |
| Indo-China S. N. ...     | 210      | \$126, buyers            |
| China and Manila...      | 50       | \$23                     |
| Douglas Steamship        | 50       | \$33 1/2, buyers         |
| Star Ferry               | 10       | \$38, sellers            |
| Shell Transport and      | 5        | \$29, sellers            |
| Trading Co.              | 21       | 22/- sales               |
| Do. pref. shares         | 210      | £3. 10.                  |
| Refineries—              |          |                          |
| China Sugar              | \$100    | \$225                    |
| Luzon Sugar              | \$100    | \$22 1/2, buyers         |
| Mining—                  |          |                          |
| Charbonnages             | Fcs. 250 | \$490                    |
| Raubas                   | 18/10d.  | \$3 1/2, sales & buyers  |
| Docks, Etc.—             |          |                          |
| H. & W. Dock             | \$50     | \$210, buyers            |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.       | \$50     | \$104 1/2, old           |
| New Amoy Dock            | \$6 1/2  | \$101, new               |
| S. C. F. Boyd & Co.      | Tls. 100 | \$27, sellers            |
| S'hai and Hongkew        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 150, buyers         |
| Wharf Co., Ltd.          | Tls. 100 | Tls. 140, buyers         |
| Land and Building—       |          |                          |
| Hongkong Land Inv.       | \$100    | \$131, sellers           |
| Kowloon Land & B.        | \$30     | \$37                     |
| West Point Building      | \$50     | \$57                     |
| Hongkong Hotel           | \$50     | \$141, buyers            |
| Humphreys Estate         | \$10     | \$12.00                  |
| S'hai Land Ins. Co. Ltd. | Tls. 50  | Tls. 115, ex div.,       |
| Cotton Mills—            |          | [buyers]                 |
| Ewo                      | Tls. 50  | Tls. 23                  |
| International            | Tls. 75  | Tls. 24                  |
| Laou Kung Mow            | Tls. 100 | Tls. 30                  |
| Saychee                  | Tls. 500 | Tls. 150, sellers        |
| Hongkong                 | \$10     | \$14                     |
| Companies—               |          |                          |
| Alhambra Limited         | \$200    | \$100, buyers            |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A.    | 12/6     | \$5 1/2                  |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.    | \$10     | \$40, sellers            |
| China-Borneo Co., Ltd.   | \$12     | \$15, sellers            |
| China Prov. L. & M.      | \$10     | \$3 1/2, sales & sellers |
| Dairy Farm               | \$6      | \$12, sales & buyers     |
| Geo. Fenwick & Co.       | \$25     | \$43, sellers            |
| Green Island Cement      | \$10     | \$29, buyers             |
| Hongkong Electric        | \$10     | \$15 1/2, sales          |
| Hongkong & C. Gas        | \$5      | \$9 1/2                  |
| H. H. L. Tramways        | 210      | \$160, buyers            |
| Hongkong Ice             | \$100    | \$265                    |
| Hongkong Rop.            | \$25     | \$242, ex div.           |
| Hk. Steam Water-         | \$50     | \$155, sellers           |
| Boat Co., Ltd.           | \$10     | \$18, sellers            |
| Phippine Tobacco         |          |                          |
| Trust Co., Ltd.          | \$10     | \$9 1/2, sellers         |
| Shanghai and Hong-       |          |                          |
| kong Dyeing and          | \$50     | \$50                     |
| Cleaning Co., Ltd.       |          |                          |
| S. C. Morning Post       | \$25     | \$22                     |
| China Light & Power      | \$10     | \$9 1/2, sellers         |
| Co., Ltd.                |          |                          |
| Steam Laundry Co.        | \$5      | \$7, buyers              |
| United Asbestos          | \$3      | \$4 1/2, buyers          |
| Do.                      | \$4      | \$9 1/2, sales           |
| Watkins, Ltd.            | \$10     | \$180                    |
| Watson & Co., A. S.      | \$10     | \$9, sellers             |
| William Powell, Ltd.     | \$10     | \$12 1/2, sales          |
|                          | \$10     | \$12 1/2, sellers        |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

#### FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports (via Shanghai):—4/6 plus river freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre (via Shanghai):—Tea and General Cargo 41/6 plus river freight. To New York (Overland):—Tea G. \$1 1/4 cents per lb. gross, plus river freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea and General Cargo 35/- per ton. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo Tals. 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

February—

## ARRIVALS.

- 10, E. Castle, British str., from Cardiff.
- 10, Machew, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 11, Hyades, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
- 11, King George, Brit. str., from Philadelphia.
- 11, M. Rickmers, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, M. Llaguno, Amr. str., from Chefoo.
- 11, Paklat, German str., from Bangkok.
- 11, Triumph, German str., from Coast Ports.
- 12, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
- 12, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 12, G. ang Bee, British str., from Samarang.
- 12, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
- 12, Lothian, British str., from Port Natal.
- 12, Sandhurst, British str., from Cardiff.
- 12, Uganda, British str., from Rangoon.
- 12, Ula, British str., from Rangoon.
- 13, Amara, British str., from Java.
- 13, Costante, Italian str., from Cardiff.
- 13, Eiger, Norwegian str., from Canton.
- 13, Empire, British str., from Kobe.
- 13, Glaucus, British str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
- 13, Kalgan, British str., from Wuhu.
- 13, Prinz Sigismund, Ger. str., from Sydney.
- 13, Siam, British str., from Manila.
- 13, Taishun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 13, Volute, British str., from Palambang.
- 13, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 13, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
- 13, Zieten, German str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Apenrade, German str., from Hoihow.
- 14, Auchenarden, British str., from Karatsu.
- 14, Eastern, British str., from Australia.
- 14, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 14, Java, British str., from Japan.
- 14, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 14, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
- 14, Swazi, British str., from Middlesbrough.
- 14, Tungshing, British str., from Canton.
- 15, Chefoo, British str., from Canton.
- 15, Chowtai, German str., from Java.
- 15, Empr. of Japan, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
- 15, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
- 15, Kwangse, British str., from Canton.
- 15, L. sa, Swedish str., from Canton.
- 15, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.
- 15, Sungkiang, British str., from Iloilo.
- 16, Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
- 16, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
- 16, Ithaka, German str., from Hamburg.
- 16, Jason, Norwegian str., from Cardiff.
- 16, Merionethshire, British str., put back.
- 16, Oscar II., Norwegian str., put back.
- 16, Raon, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
- 16, Shaohsing, British str., from Shanghai.
- 16, Taksang, British str., from Canton.
- 16, Waishing, British str., from Canton.
- 17, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
- 17, Hopsa, g, British str., from Moji.
- 17, Lydia, German str., from Canton.
- 17, Nanshan, British str., from Saigon.
- 17, Purner, British str., from Bangoon.
- 17, Taishun, Chinese str., from Canton.
- 17, Taiwan, British str., from Canton.
- 17, Ula, Norwegian str., from Manila.
- 18, Andromeda, British cr., from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Astraea, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Binh-Huan, French str., from Moji.
- 18, B. Bjornson, Norw. str., from Foochow.
- 18, C. Menzell, German str., from Chefoo.
- 18, Centurion, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
- 18, Decima, German str., from Anping.
- 18, Devawongs, German str., from Bangkok.
- 18, Esang, British str., from Swatow.
- 18, Glenogle, British str., from London.
- 18, Glory, British battleship, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Haimun, British str., from Swatow.
- 18, Hogue, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Iphigenia, British cr., from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Kowloon, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 18, Loongsang, British str., from Manila.
- 18, Malacca, British battleship, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Petchaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
- 18, Proteus, Norwegian str., from Saigon.
- 18, Sutlej, British cruiser, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Tean, British str., from Manila.
- 18, Trau, British str., from Barry.
- 18, Vega, Swedish str., from London.
- 18, Vengeance, British b'ship, from Mirs Bay.
- 18, Woodford, British str., from Cardiff.
- 18, Yiksangr, British str., from Chinkiang.

## February— DEPARTURES.

- 10, Baron Eldon, British str., for Burma.
- 10, Decima, German str., for Swatow.
- 10, Dr. H. J. Kiaer, Dutch str., for Hoihow.
- 10, Easby Abbey, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Glenfarg, British str., for Shanghai.
- 10, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 10, Harbarton, British str., for Kinauchou.
- 10, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.
- 10, Indrani, British str., for Sasebo.
- 10, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
- 10, Ras Issa, British str., for New York.
- 10, Ruth, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 10, Sylviana, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Chunsang, British str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 11, Fausang, British str., for Singapore.
- 11, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Lyceemoo, German str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Pitsanulok, German str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Rubi, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Simala, British str., for Europe.
- 11, Themis, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
- 12, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.
- 12, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 12, Johanne, German str., for Hoihow.
- 12, Petrarch, German str., for Saigon.
- 12, Pronto, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
- 12, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 13, Arabia, German str., for Portland.
- 13, B. Bjornsen, Norw. str., for Foochow.
- 13, Japan, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
- 13, Oscar II., Norwegian str., for Moji.
- 13, Siam, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
- 14, Alacrity, British str., for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Andromeda, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Astraea, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Centurion, British b'ship, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Chinkiang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Glaucus, British str., for London.
- 14, Glory, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, G. Apear, British str., for Calcutta.
- 14, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
- 14, Hogue, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Iphigenia, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Merionethshire, British str., for Shanghai.
- 14, Ocean, British battleship, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Orange, Norwegian str., for Nagasaki.
- 14, Sutlej, British cruiser, for Mirs Bay.
- 14, Taming, British str., for Manila.
- 14, Taiwan, British str., for Australia.
- 14, Uganda, British str., for Kobe.
- 14, Ula, British str., for Yokohama.
- 14, Vengeance, British b'ship, for Mirs Bay.
- 15, Benledi, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 15, Capri, Italian str., for Bombay.
- 15, Empire, British str., for Timor, &c.
- 15, Java, British str., for London.
- 15, Juno, American str., for Manila.
- 15, Kalgan, British str., for Canton.
- 15, Pekin, British str., for Kobe.
- 15, Poschan, German str., for Kobe.
- 15, Prinz Sigismund, German str., for Kobe.
- 15, Triumph, German str., for Coast Ports.
- 15, Tungshing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 15, Zieten, German str., for Europe.
- 16, An Pho, British str., for Kobe.
- 16, Eastern, British str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
- 16, Hellas, German str., for Chinkiang.
- 16, Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Laertes, British str., for Saigon.
- 16, Lisa, Swedish str., for Chinkiang.
- 16, Princess Alice, German str., for Shanghai.
- 16, Progress, German str., for Paracel Island.
- 16, Swazi, British str., for Yokohama.
- 17, Achilles, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Chefoo, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, China, American str., for San Francisco.
- 17, Hua, French str., for Haiphong.
- 17, Mausang, British str., for Sandakan.
- 17, Merionethshire, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Shaohsing, British str., for Canton.
- 17, Taksang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Waishing, British str., for Shanghai.
- 17, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
- 18, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
- 18, Arratoon Apcar, British str., for Calcutta.
- 18, Giang Bee, British str., for Samarang.
- 18, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
- 18, Hohnstein, German str., for Moji.
- 18, Hyades, British str., for Tacoma.
- 18, Kamor, Norwegian str., for Tientsin.
- 18, Lydia, German str., for Chinkiang.
- 18, M. Rickmers, German str., for Bangkok.

- 18, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18, Volute, British str., for Balik Papan.  
 18, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per *Simla*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. Jones, Freidentball, Miles, Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin, Messrs. Kinhear, J. St. George, H. Broc, Bastien, R. E. Chambers, Simmons, Misses C. Bastick, J. Trainham, J. Whelden, Messrs. Hubbs, Hirschke, and Wildenbruck; for Singapore, Mr. A. W. Prior; for Colombo, Mr. Serguieff; for Bombay, Messrs. J. Brebner and N. Sorabjee; for Marseilles, Messrs. King, Solomon, Skene, Desborough, Mrs. Jackson, Lieuts. Romasheff, Vittgeff, and Semenoff; for London, Lieut.-Gen. Sir W. P. Nicholson, K.C.B., Messrs. Gale, Prescott, G. G. Sinclair, Macdonald, Capt. Bradley, Mr. Byers; for Port Said, 52 Russian passengers.

Per *Bengal*, from Bombay, for Hongkong, Mr. Cooper; from Marseilles, Capt. and Mrs. Purvis, Mr. A. Lander; from London, Mr. and Mrs. Badcock and child, Figg and child, Dr. E. L. Mansell, Messrs. J. O. Barnett, E. J. Evans, A. Goldsmith, W. H. P. Parfitt; from Penang, Mr. and Mrs. A. Campbell, Mr. A. E. Young; from Singapore, Dr. C. Kew, Messrs. Selous, A. J. Deacon, P. Smith, Gutierrez, Hallum; from London, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Buckland, Messrs. R. Simms, McDonaldson, E. C. H. Monte, J. R. Gilchrist; from Marseilles, Mr. E. L. P. Boyle; from Penang, Messrs. Borg, H. Delkeskamp; from Marseilles, Mr. L. Weiglin; and from London, for Yokohama, Messrs. S. J. Wheeler and L. Aikin.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Miss M. Foster, Mr. M. C. Jack; from Kobe, Dr. G. B. Cook, Messrs. A. W. Rankin and T. Okamoto; from Shanghai, Miss Ida Kerr, Messrs. W. M. Stewart, C. de Szilarsy, F. Szilassy, E. R. Millar, H. E. Bremer, F. A. Cumming, N. E. Moller, F. W. Irvine, W. G. Parle, W. B. Clayton, Dr. Pratt, Messrs. J. A. Hayes, E. Wilkins, C. Rayner, F. Rallin, F. Mendoza, and C. Mendoza.

Per *Malacca*, for Hongkong from London, Capt. A. H. Notley, Mr. A. Forbes Greig, and Lieut. W. A. Wallis; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Leresche and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Nuttal, Mrs. Ball, Miss Birnstingle, and Mr. R. C. K. Johnson; for Shanghai, from London, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Murray, child and infant, Messrs. W. D. Laing, Rudolph Herberitz, and H. T. Nelson.

## DEPARTED.

Per *Simla*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. I. M. Shields, J. Mentinor, and C. M. Phillips; for Brindisi, Mr. and Mrs. Gregson, Mrs. E. J. Posh, Mrs. and Miss A. E. Knight; for Marseilles, Rev. and Mrs. W. S. P. Walsh and infant, Messrs. Launcelot Gregson, F. W. Kite, Major-General F. Slade, C.B., and Capt. Frank Hall, A.D.C.; for London, Rev. and Mrs. P. Josland and 2 children, Dr. and Mrs. Gibson, Inspector Dymond, Messrs. J. E. Petavel, J. R. Boyes, and A. J. Mackie; from Yokohama, for London, Lieut.-General Sir W. P. Nicholson, K.C.B., Messrs. B. B. Gale and Prescott.

Per *Princess Alice*, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. Benjamin, Mrs. M. C. Guees, Capt. Kent, Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Dick, Messrs. F. Hubble, W. Allamon, J. Silbermann, H. Jaquet, N. Cito, E. F. Spethman, T. Naftaly, Teestidas, Hassazam, Kenshard, Mrs. Harling and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Bauer, Mr. and Mrs. Y. L. Fonger, Messrs. Metharan, Strathmann, F. Luber, W. A. Rumpf, and J. Rosario; for Nagasaki, Matsunji, Tada, Yaomamoto, Junzaki, Kasahara, Tashiro, Kojima, Matsui, S. Tanaka, Miss Okidhi, and Mrs. Junzaki.

Per *China*, for Shanghai, Messrs. M. Oka, F. H. Bell, T. Ward, Henri Meitre, T. Ogura, R. Sh'boy, Mrs. A. d'Azevedo, Messrs. J. Orange and Olaf Christiansen; for San Francisco, Mr. A. Mackillo, Mrs. Kate Besore and child, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Campbell, Mr. C. A. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Theobald and infant, Mr. W. F. Hackman, Mrs. M. H. Bardsley, Mr. J. A. Deacon, Capt. and Mrs. F. J. Mackenzie-Grieve, Miss Mackenzie-Grieve, Mrs. S. E. Hopkins, and Mr. E. A. Katsch.

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